

THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

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- OAST HOUSE CONVERSION, KENT
- ILKESTON PROPOSED COLLEGE
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MARCH 27, 1952


VOL. 201

NO. 4345

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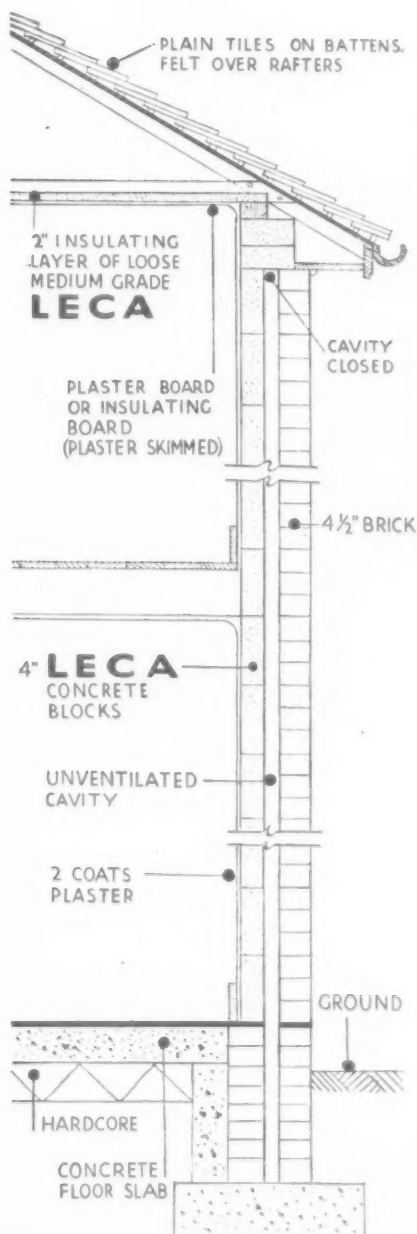
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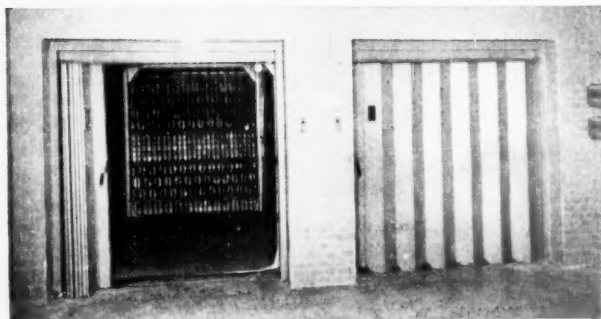
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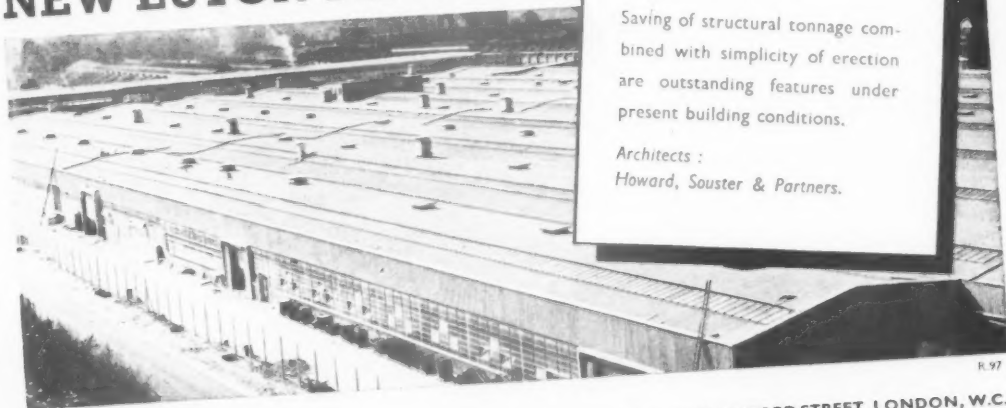
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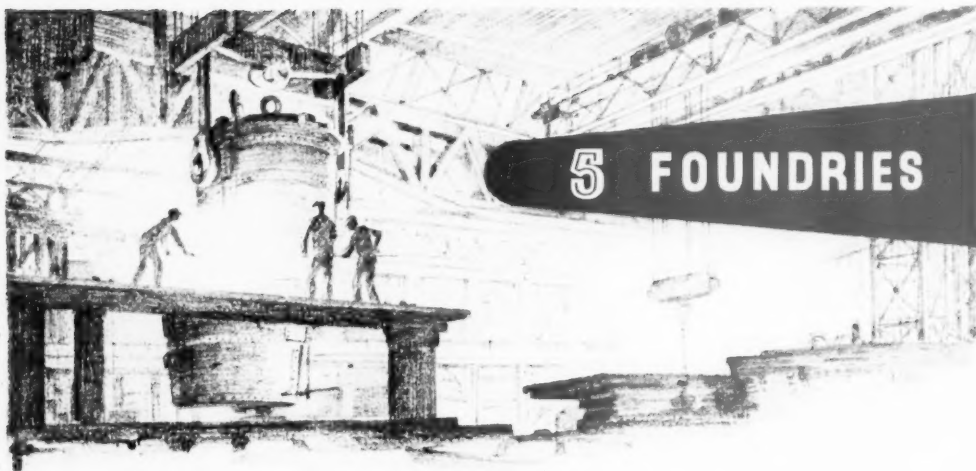
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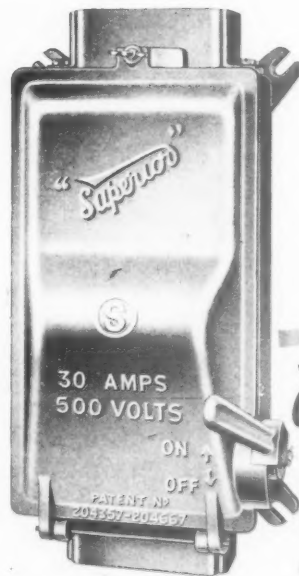


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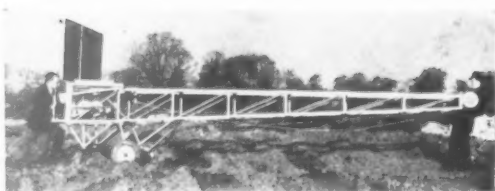
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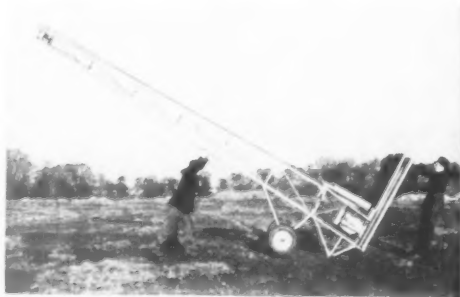
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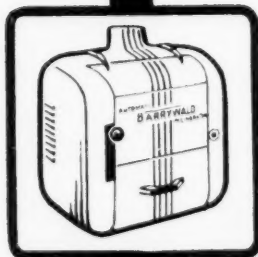
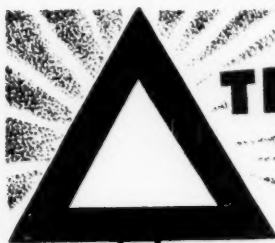
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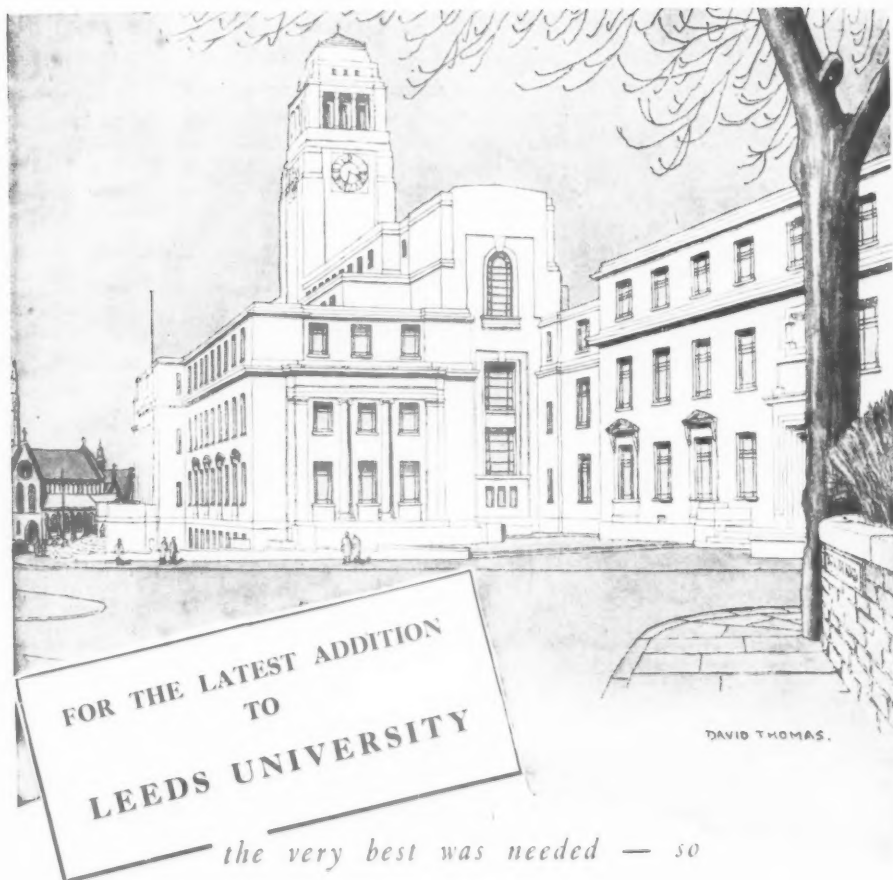
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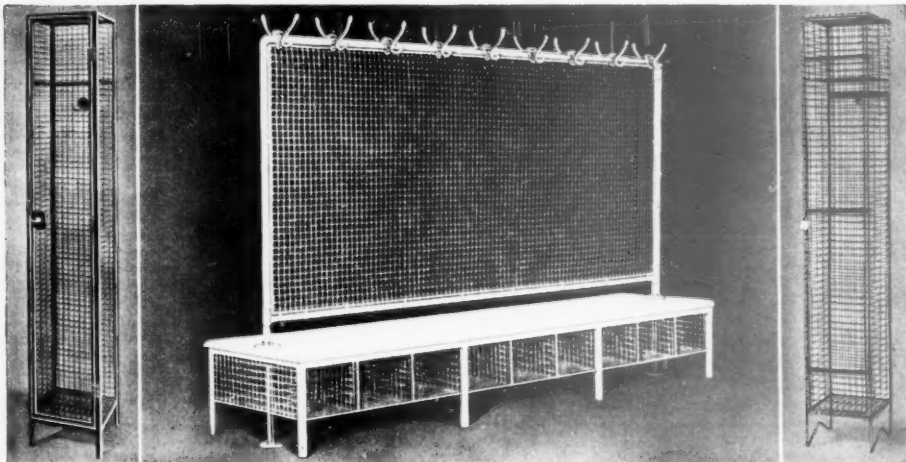
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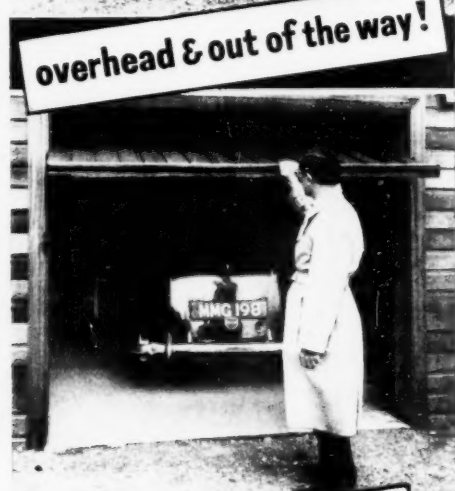
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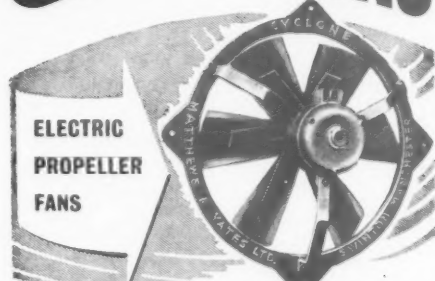
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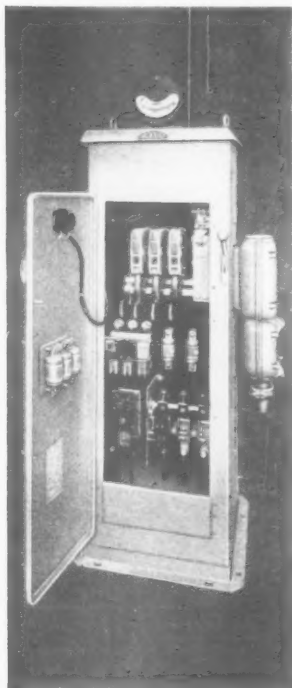
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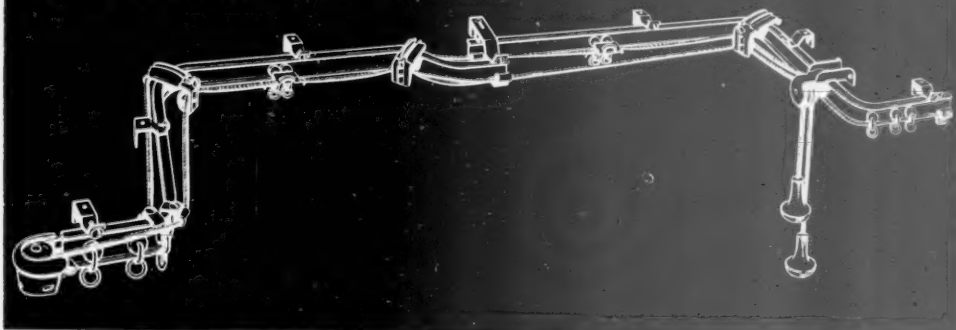
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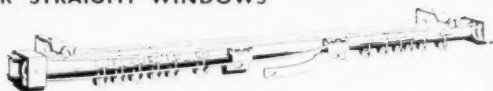
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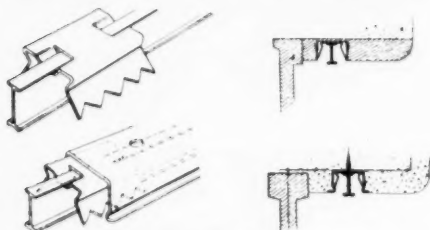


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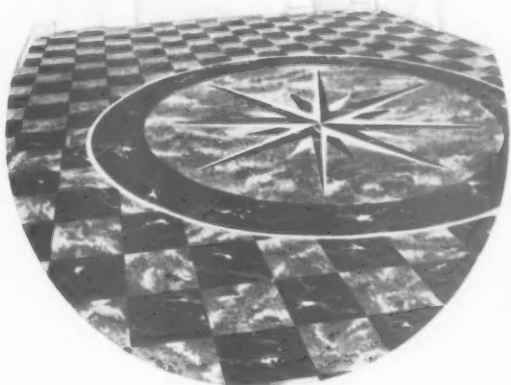
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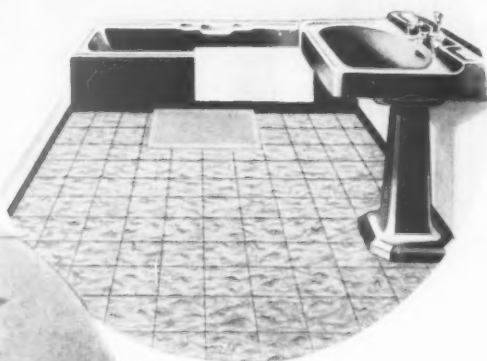
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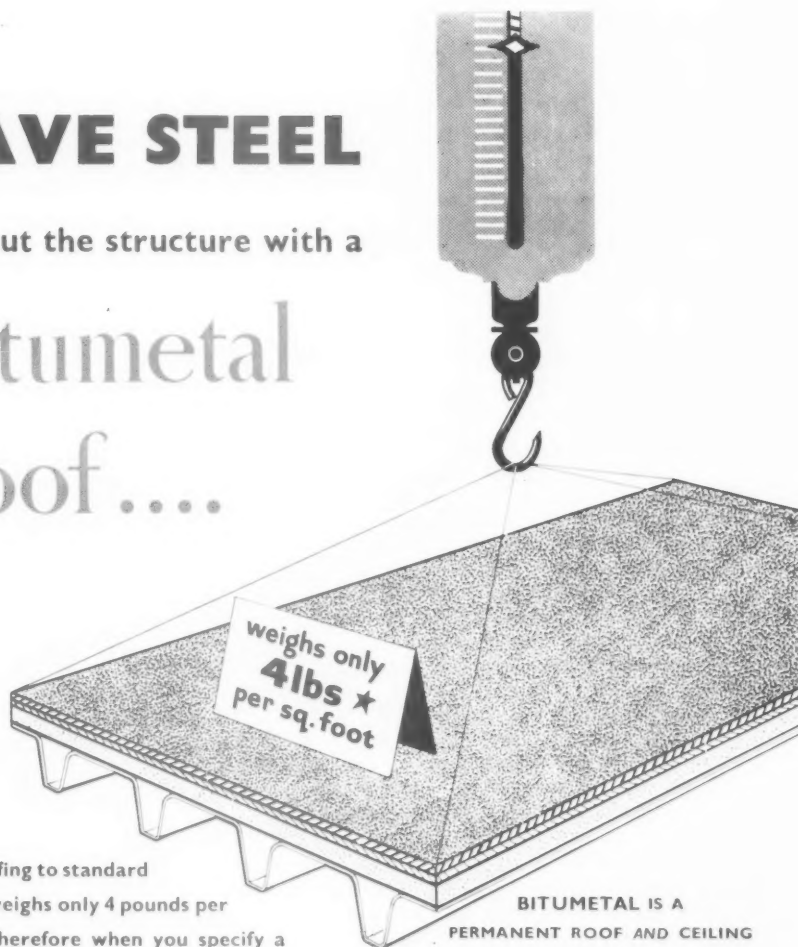
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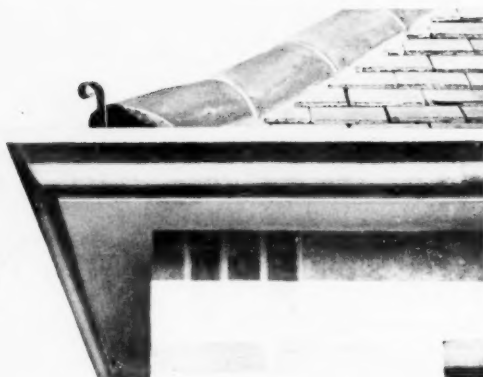
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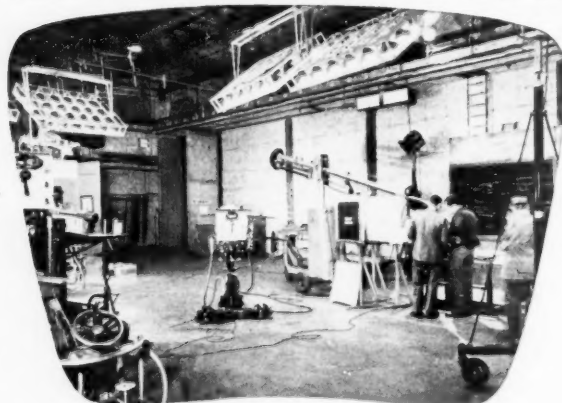
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THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

March 27, 1952

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ROOMS OF THEIR OWN

STUDY has always tended to isolate the adolescent from his non-studious fellows; though, if he is normally constituted, he will mix in games, "rags," and debates and all the other social and communal activities. In these orientations of early life lie many problems, starting with the home and ending with the college and the university.

How in "housing" to provide facilities for quiet study is a serious matter that at one time might have been solved by the "parlour"—now omitted from the average family house—and is now supposed to be met by the provision of a table in a bedroom. The latter is, of course, generally too small and the penetration of the wireless loud-speaker a serious handicap, even if, during the winter months, the overcoat may be fairly adequate to exclude the rigours of the English climate. How to determine which houses or what proportion of houses shall have what the U.N. document known as "ECE IM HOU 25 Rev. 1." calls a "study-bedroom"—that is a room slightly larger than normal planned to allow suitable arrangement—is a problem that our housing pundits have not yet got round to.

In general the destruction of space and opportunity for the contemplative sides of study and the concentration of personal effort needed to assist the formation of habit and of reserves for later life, is being most thoroughly achieved by cinema, wireless and television. There can be as much distraction in the home or in "lodgings" as in the college; for "prep." and "home-work" is the concomitant of lecture, class and tutorial. To attempt to provide everything in the latter communal sessions is to forget the discipline of personal study and to increase

the "spoon-feeding" that is more and more tending to be the cramming curse of both the "arts" and the technical sides of higher education.

The inadequacies of our universities in this matter are not altogether measures of their age, for the quality of lodgings at both Oxford and Cambridge, even if adequate in numbers, leaves much to be desired; on the other hand the younger universities are dreadfully lacking in the necessary hostel accommodation for their students. It has been recently pointed out at Birmingham that that university, although situated within one of the greatest conurbations outside London, has less residential accommodation than any university in the country. There are others that are but little better.

What are the essentials of this type of building? First, of course, to get it built or converted at all and as soon as possible; this is a matter of balance between restrictions and the importance of ensuring that sound education is forthcoming to meet the very situations that cause the restrictions—a vicious circle that is rarely comprehended by our economic planners even if it is recognized by educationalists. Second, to create the correct balance, in all such buildings, between communal life and isolation for study. The study-room or bedroom is not an entertainment room and, while it requires a modicum of comfort as a place for sleep and daily living, it should also include the quality that induces thought and work as well as the traditional discipline of the monkish cell.

On the other hand, the social rooms of a students' hostel must be large enough and numerous enough to cope with the various activities for which they may be required at different times of the day. It is

obvious that students cannot get the full benefits from university life unless they learn tolerance and humanity as fellow students in hostel or club; nor otherwise can they exchange ideas without mixing in the hurly-burly of sports and the argument and laughter of common room or, in fact, appreciate to the full the "isolation" of their "cells."

We have lost sight too much of these things as parts of our educational system. Even in the schools of architecture too much is "taken home," too many drawings are made in the discomforts of bedrooms or the family noise of living rooms, with all the irritations and frustrations these make-shifts entail. The old "atelier" spirit seems extinguished, buried beneath the super-loads of extended curricula and curtailed by the restrictions on space, lighting and heating that, starting with the recent war, have dogged the development of all higher technical schools.

All-night studio work and all-out effort of the type that produces fine drawings and the brilliance

of individual solutions of common problems of planning and design have suffered partial eclipse and life—architectural life—has lost something of great value. The loss is reflected in the hesitation and flatness of much modern design; but more particularly is it shown in the inadequacy of much present-day architectural draughtsmanship.

Modern life, with all its inventions and speed, is approaching conditions for which past Utopians have claimed would give more time for men to become once more contemplative and thoughtful. But this stage, when scientific civilization is the servant of humanity and not its master, is not with us yet; nor yet, judging by, say, the U.S.A., does it look like dawning for some considerable time. Why do we, then, in this country, with a longer tradition and love of such things than most other western countries, ignore the essentials which would assist to bring us back—or forward—to purposeful thought and personal work within a community.

EVENTS AND COMMENTS

THE R.I.B.A. DINNER

It was only right that the R.I.B.A. dinner should have been revived. In the past this event was held at 66, Portland Place, and there had a special significance because of its architectural setting and the feeling that the Royal Institute was, in fact, At Home. Unfortunately the Henry Florence Hall is not sufficiently large to house the number of members who have in the past applied to attend and it was therefore decided this year to hold the dinner at Grosvenor House where there is plenty of room. Although this decision was justified to the extent that more people attended than could have been fitted into the Henry Florence Hall the numbers were not as large as had been hoped and, at a rough guess, half as many again could have been accommodated. When the health of the guests was drunk there seemed to be more people seated than standing so that there must have been only about two hundred and fifty members present out of a total of—what is it—fifteen thousand?

The President and Mrs. Henderson received the guests and the company went into dinner to the music of a string band from the Corps of Royal Engineers. There was a certain amount of message passing between gunners in my part of the room on the question of this sapper band, and though it was generally conceded that it was the most suitable corps of the Army for the purpose, it was felt in some quarters that in view of the profession's contribution during the war the Corps might be renamed the Royal Architects and Engineers. The dinner was good and most efficiently served. I always admire the staff work on such occasions and try to find the man at whose wink each course is whisked away. I heard one or two comments

that the wine service was not as good as it might have been, but I suspect that the complainers had only themselves to blame for not ordering before dinner at the table provided. "Pardon my being a bit premature," said a voice at my elbow when I was eating my Poulet de Printemps Poêlé aux Racines, "but will you be taking a liqueur?" This may perhaps have been slightly unorthodox, but as a result of it I was served with my brandy at the right time.

The distinguished persons at the top table looked a little like a bench of magistrates having an apologetic snack during a morning session while they tried to look at, but not catch the eye of, their friends and acquaintances in the body of the court. In their turn the public, programmes of names in their hands, quizzed the bench. Who's the old boy with the . . . ? Good lord, I thought he was dead, and so on. The toast master's most expensive voice made me feel as if my collar was too tight. With the exception of Mr. Goodhart Rendel the speakers added no lustre to the art of after-dinner speaking, although there were one or two good jokes. My worst shock of the evening was to find a contemporary, a mere boy, wearing a presidential badge of the Blankshire, Loamshire and Jumbletonshire Society of Architects.

I imagine that the expense of such dinners keeps many people away, and, as the main object of the exercise is to entertain the Institute's official friends I think more would be gained than would be lost by returning next year to Portland Place. One official dinner in the no-man's-land of a large hotel is much the same as any other. The R.I.B.A. building is at its best during a party, let us return there even at the risk of disappointing a few people who apply too late for tickets.

CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN ARCHITECTURE

This exhibition, organized by the Italian group of C.I.A.M., is a considerable disappointment. A great deal of interesting work has been done in Italy since the war and much of it has been admirably illustrated in *Domus* and elsewhere. I had come to regard the modern Italian school of architects as at least the leaders of architectural fashion if indeed they are not something more. And I had therefore expected a pretty smart show and not a mass of indifferently arranged photostats of so small a size as to be almost invisible in an exhibition room. Many of the plans are so small and so out of focus that they scarcely read at all. All the sparkle of even the best photographs has been removed in the process of reproduction. The screens are amateurish and promise to wind in all directions before the exhibition is over. The handbook is the slimmest ever and owing to the late arrival of material contains no reference whatever to the exhibits. The layout is in the shape of a large question mark and as one tries to escape from its centre one can but ask where do we go from here? Detractors from modern architecture always point out that it is the photographer with his carefully chosen shadows and worm's eye views who keeps the contemporary architectural pot boiling. This exhibition goes too far in the other direction and I cannot believe that it does so on purpose, for there is, after all, a mean between the photographic swindle and a really bad picture. When one remembers, for example, the Swiss exhibition one is entitled to say that this show is not at all what it might have been. If it impresses at all it is by the volume of contemporary architecture which has been put up in Italy in recent years. Only a small part of it is really good and only a small part of that appears to provide any new ideas. I would have preferred to have seen far fewer exhibits better shown. The present screens are no more than pages torn from a not very good architectural paper.

GREAT BRITAIN GETS A HAND

L'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui, No. 39, for February, is devoted to the architecture of this country and has been specially prepared by the paper's London correspondent, Erno Goldfinger. He has made a very good job of it and has included articles by some well-known people as commentaries on a well-selected series of photographs. Her Majesty's Ambassador in France contributes a message of good wishes and after an introduction by Mr. Goldfinger there are contributions from J. M. Richards on the development of modern architecture in this country, on Housing by R. Skinner, on education by J. Newsum, and on Town Planning by Sir Patrick you know who. Naturally the selection of buildings will not be everyone's choice. For example, the housing section contains no pictures at all of houses, while some of the best flat schemes are omitted. The result in the round is, however, impressive, and I think that we may justifiably be proud of it. There are few buildings which would remain undetected in an exhibition of Brazilian, Swedish or Italian architecture, and that, after all, is something.

THREAT TO THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY

I hear that some clever chap has invented a film that can be applied to glass to enable an electric current to be passed through it, thus warming the glass, preventing breath settling on it and doing away with the art of scribbling on window panes. It has, I am told, other useful



Most of the trees having been felled in the lower part of Grosvenor Gardens behind the statue of Marshal Foch, someone is having wonderful fun and games with wall-paper patterns turned into paths. It is unfair to criticize at this stage, perhaps they are going to stand the thing on end.

applications. What with this and electric blankets we are now only one step away from plugging ourselves into the electric mains and doing without clothes altogether. "Pardon my wandering lead, duchess."

PUBLIC OPENING OF TENDERS

For some time the L.M.B.A. has been pressing for the reintroduction of the old habit of opening tenders in the presence of the tenderers. The Holborn Borough Council has recently readopted the custom, largely due to the efforts of the Chairman of the Housing and Town Planning Committee, Alderman W. E. Mullen, who is a former mayor and a member of the L.M.B.A. Only one of the tendering firms was not represented on March 12 when the first tenders were opened under the new system. Contractors feel strongly on this and I see no reason why it should not be widely adopted once more.

BATTERSEA REOPENING

I understand that the general sprucing up of the Festival Gardens is in the hands of James Gardner. Some of the designers of the buildings there are wondering where they come in, I believe. I am glad it is not my job to lay down the professional etiquette to be observed and, anyway, if a building designed to be used for one year is used for a longer period who gets the fees for any additional work required to make it serviceable? For example, has the original designer any legitimate complaint if the colour scheme of a canvas-roofed building is completely changed so that it alters the whole character of the building?

ABNER

R . I . B . A . D I N N E R

Extracts from some of the Speeches at a Dinner of the Royal Institute of the British Architects at Grosvenor House on March 20th. The President, Mr. A. Graham Henderson, A.R.S.A., in the Chair

The Right Hon. JAMES STUART, M.V.O., M.C., M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland, proposed the toast of "The Royal Institute of British Architects and its Allied Societies."

I am not going to make a long and serious speech about architecture, because the truth is that I do not know anything about it. Whether that is a relief to you or not I cannot say. I do feel for you, however, the greatest sympathy, working as you do in the times in which we live, which are for you, I realize, times of great difficulty. The castles of which you dream must for the present remain castles in the air. I should like to think that they would achieve realization in the near future, but I am afraid that there is bound to be some gap, because, as we all know, the position of this country to-day is so serious that we cannot afford, owing to the materials situation and the economic position generally, to go in for the building of those beautiful buildings which we all wish to see once again.

The PRESIDENT, who responded, said: When my Council decided that this year we would have a dinner, I am not quite sure what considerations influenced them, but the records show that the last dinner which we had was in 1947, five years ago. In the interval, we have had to make do, to return the hospitality of our many friends, with receptions. Now, a reception is a very good thing, but it is just not quite a dinner, and I feel very honoured that they have made the period of my Presidency coincide with a dinner.

Of course, it is common knowledge that architects cannot afford to have a dinner every year. (*Laughter.*) I have a feeling that this may be mixed up in some way with me. The Institute has for the first time experimented with a President from Scotland, and they simply had to bang the saxophones. (*Laughter.*)

When the President of the Royal Institute stands up to speak, people expect that he will say something about architecture. If I have learnt anything at all recently, I have realized in the last two years that the most dangerous topic for the President of the R.I.B.A. to talk about is architecture. I decline to be drawn on that subject. Architecture has been likened to a mixture of dreams and nightmares. We shall never all agree about the art of architecture, so that it is not much use starting a row—or is it? I will put it in this way, that if we did all agree about it, architecture would cease to be an art.

In considering what I might say to-night, I recalled that when I had just finished my schooling the question of my future arose in the household. My father thought that I should become a lawyer. I do not know whether he regarded the law as the most profitable of the professions. My own idea was to turn to art, but, realizing that in a Presbyterian household art was not regarded as being strictly respectable, apart from the question of profit, I decided, with what I thought at the time was some degree of subtlety, to choose architecture, as being the back door, so to speak. I therefore put the question to my father "What do architects do?" and I remember very well his answer, "They mostly starve." Of course, if you look at us now that may not seem to be true! The difference that he would have noticed to-day is that we all starve together.

On that twin text of question and answer I propose to hang the few remarks which I wish to make this evening. Take first the question "What does an architect do?" I wonder how many of the public to-day really do know what an architect does? I think that it is a very small proportion. I have no time to-night to tell them the answer, but what I should like to emphasize is this, that in my experience I have seen an enormous uplift in the status of the architect. He is almost popular nowadays in certain circles.

I think that the position of the architect to-day is largely due to the Royal Institute of British Architects, which has fostered the education of the architect and built up the profession into an honoured position, but that honour can only be assured by establishing the position that the men who practise our profession are competent to do so. It is only thus that we can get anywhere in the public esteem, and only because of that that we have the right to stand anywhere in the public esteem.

The next point that I want to make is this, and it is a very important one. In my experience I have known a time where perhaps 5 per cent of the profession were engaged in doing public work, either as officials or otherwise. That proportion has now risen to well over 50 per cent. It is obvious, therefore, that in the future more and more architects will have to look to the State for their employment. The State has spent an enormous sum of money on educating architects, and if it sharpens the tool it must find some use for it, or it will have wasted its money. It is from that point of view that I appeal for careful consideration to be given to the architect as a planning expert, and for the appreciation of his work.

Then there is the answer to my question, "They mostly starve." I am going to digress for a moment to strike a serious note and take on the function, which I also have, of being President of the Architects' Benevolent Society. We have members who have that fear hanging over them, and I take this opportunity—and I do not apologize for doing so—to appeal to all architects to support the Architects' Benevolent Fund by a very modest donation, but an annual one.

Mr. H. S. GOODHART-RENDEL, Mus.B. (Cantab.) M.A. (Oxon), Past-President R.I.B.A., who proposed the toast of the Guests, said: I was once told that the secret of proposing acceptably the toast of the Guests was to have a clear notion in one's head as to why they had been asked, and also a clear notion in one's head as to why they had accepted the invitation. I think that the first notion must be clear in the minds of everybody. The Royal Institute of British Architects has obviously asked those whose presence will do it most honour and whose company will be most pleasant. But why has this honour been done to us and this pleasure bestowed? A great many learned societies and professional bodies are constantly clamouring for the attention of important people, and we like to think, in compliment both to them and to ourselves, that many of our guests have chosen to accept ours from among many invitations, and that they have done this as a tribute to architecture—not necessarily to architecture as it is now, or even to architecture as it has been at any particular period, but to architecture as an art in which every civilized nation is bound to strive to be eminent.

This is not the time to attempt any exact definition of architecture, but it is the time to reiterate its position as a fine art, and that is particularly necessary to-day. I ought not to say "its" position but "her" position, the position of what a leading member of our Institute and of the Royal Academy used constantly and rather embarrassingly to proclaim as his mistress art.

At the present time, architecture finds herself expected to behave less as a mistress in any sense than as a general servant (*laughter*), with a number of useful tasks to perform under employers who expect her only to be clean, willing and moderately sober. (*Laughter and applause.*) Her power to perform those tasks not only efficiently but beautifully is unimagined by many for whom she works, and I am afraid that it is sometimes forgotten by herself.

We can all have our own opinion on how much the spirit

of our great-grandsons will be enriched by the historic buildings that the more enduring of our present constructions will then have become. Everything will have passed from them then except their architecture. Their novelty will have gone; their particular serviceability will have disappeared and their youthful good health will have vanished; they will exist only on their architectural quality. If their architecture is good and true, men will love them and be the better for loving them; they will try to find some use for them, and resist destroying them just as we try to resist destroying old manor houses. Can we hope that that will be so? Let us hope that it may be so, so that we may do something to repay to future generations what we owe to the last.

I believe that the answer to the second question with which I began this speech lies very near to this point. I do believe that our guests have come to us because we stand, however unworthily, for the fine art of architecture. I believe that our guests know, as we know, that in the long run the exercise and appreciation of the fine arts are even more necessary to human improvement than are the proper cares of the body, with which we seem chiefly to be occupied at the moment.

I have no reason to suppose that any of our guests suspect us of making art an expensive extra on the bill, but the suspicion is one which architects do so often encounter that it is likely to be in the minds of some who are otherwise completely sympathetic with us. Of course, architectural art is an extra, but not an extra on the bill; it is a further expenditure of skill, not of money, an expenditure of skill in giving spiritual significance to what may have already been made skilfully enough to serve its merely physical purpose. It is the source of the pleasure which we take in looking at buildings with which we have no personal concern, at the contemplation of other men's faiths, the places of other men's occupations, the houses of strangers. It is the elimination of accident, the imposition of design, of order, which, as experience shows, are more likely to take something off the bill than to add anything on to it.

Those who were present recently when Her Majesty's Minister of Works told the Council of the Institute, in an informal address, how we could best help him in this time of emergency will preserve the happiest memories of that occasion. Never has a collaboration been more auspiciously initiated. We all felt then that the emergency had no menace to our art but rather a challenge to our resourcefulness. While not concealing from us the inevitable limitation of our opportunities, he suggested that such

opportunities as we had were exceptionally stimulating, stimulants of original thought, jolts out of the rut.

One of the jolts which I think quite particularly salutary is the shortage of steel, a material of which the legitimate uses are many, but of which for the most general use, that of saving the architect trouble, can have little defence. In the schools, many students expect it to behave like the shoemaker's elves in Grimm's Fairy Tales, and to do all their work for them while they sleep. Personally, I am extremely glad that so many of us are having to give up steel this Lent.

I see less than I used to of the work of the architectural schools, but from what I hear I believe that, among the innumerable things that they spend their time planning, buildings tend to be increasingly included.

The work of the architect, like that of the musician, can be set out exactly on paper but comes fully into being only when performed by other hands than his. The architect without the buildings tradesmen and their immediate employers, the building contractors, is as dumb as an orchestral composer without an orchestra. We rejoice to have the leaders of the building orchestra among our guests to-night. The tie between them and us, always close, has never been closer than it is now, in our common adversity. Another most welcome guest represents the chartered surveyors, most generous men who know everything about us and the builders and yet do not shun our company.

The Right Hon. LORD MACMILLAN, G.C.V.O., L.L.D., Hon.F.R.I.B.A., who responded, said: After the most generous and delightful hospitality which your guests have enjoyed this evening, I am happy that my task is to respond for them and not to answer for them.

My personal position is both ambiguous and intimidating. It is ambiguous because, after all, am I not a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects? Honorary, no doubt; heaven help the building owner who asked me to design a house for him! I count it, however, one of the most delightful honours that has ever fallen to me, and I am still at a loss to know why it was every bestowed on me. Possibly the reason may be the work which has been done by a body of which I have the honour to be Chairman, namely, the Pilgrim Trust, which has had the happy fate of being able to do so much to preserve many of our most beautiful architectural possessions in this country. That great Italian cynic, Machiavelli, in his book *The Prince* says: "The giving away of that which is another's does not detract from thy reputation but rather adds to it." Hence my reputation, a reputation very easily earned by a Scotsman.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Manchester Golden Jubilee Dinner

The Manchester, Salford and District Building Trades Employers' Association held their Golden Jubilee Dinner and Dance at the new Free Trade Hall, Manchester on Friday February 15.

The President of the N.F.B.T.E., Mr. Ian Robertson and the Director, Mr. Stanley Hearder, attended a press conference which preceded the dinner.

In the evening, those present included Hugh Molson, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the M.O.W., the Regional Director, W. D. Marshall, C.B.E., F.A.I. and the Principal Regional Officer to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, P. L. Hughes, O.B.E.

The Manchester Association was one of the first bodies to hold joint

consultations with architects to discuss building problems. The National Federation was represented among the official guests by the President, the vice-president, W. Horsfall, and the Director. From the North Western Federation there were the President, P. Riley, the past President, W. F. Allen, the Director, Walter Hogarth, and the Secretary, H. Bullock. Sir Luke Fawcett, O.B.E., Stanley V. May and A. West, represented the Operators Federation.

Architects among the official guests included the President of the Manchester Society, W. Cecil Young, F.R.I.B.A., Sir Hubert Worthington, and from the consultative board, Messrs. P. G. Fairhurst, F. Leslie Halliday, W. A. Johnson, Francis Jones, H. T. Seward, F.F.R.I.B.A., and F. J. Gomershall, L.R.I.B.A.

Leonard C. Howitt, F.R.I.B.A., City architect and designer of the Free

Trade Hall was present as was R. Nicholas, the City Surveyor.

Robert Carlyle, President of the Manchester, Salford and District Building Trades Employers' Association received the Press at the morning conference and the guests in the evening.

Speakers after dinner were Hugh Molson, M.P., Ian Robertson, W. Cecil Young, F.R.I.B.A., and Sir Luke Fawcett, O.B.E.

Mr. Molson congratulated the Association on the formation long ago, of the Manchester Apprenticeship Scheme which acted as a model and was incorporated in the 1943 National Scheme. After referring to the slow down in factory building Mr. Molson said, "In the matter of house building, quite exceptionally, we are intending to . . . increase output." He hoped that the Building Industry would be able to show increased production.

"It is our opinion," said Mr. Molson "that the rigid financial ceiling in the past has discouraged effort."

Since steel is likely to remain short Mr. Molson appealed to architects and builders to use reinforced and prestressed concrete as much as possible.

Mr. Cecil Young, President of the Manchester Society of Architects and Mr. Ian Robertson, President of the N.F.B.T.E. supported Mr. Molson.

Mr. Young said "... in a healthy state the builder should find the architect indispensable ... I hate to see building in slow motion ... stopping and starting a car reduces your miles per gallon ... tea drinking on jobs has a similar effect ... it took hundreds of kettles of boiling water to decorate the exterior of my house.

"Until it is possible for the architect, the builder or the clerk of works, to walk on to a job and condemn bad workmanship without creating a strike or the over sensitive workman walking off the job, there is no hope for architecture, or the building trade or the country."

Referring to the Architects' and Builders' Consultative Board Mr. Young said "A very close co-operation exists in the Architects' and Builders' Consultative Board, the first of its kind, I believe, to be set up in this country."

"The Consultative Board held its meetings long before I was privileged to represent my Society. Their united efforts produced some of the best practical publications on the various branches of the building trade that have ever been published, and their production was only discontinued when the creation of the Building Research Station with its vast financial resources made their voluntary activities in this particular direction redundant."

The President, Mr. Robert Carlyle responded.

Housing Production Board Set Up for Southern Region of England

The Housing Production Board for the Southern Region of England, comprising the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Dorset, Hampshire and Oxfordshire, has now been set up. Its headquarters will be in Reading.

The members of the Board are:—
Independent Chairman: Col. the Rt. Hon. Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, G.B.E.

Representatives of the Building Trades Employers: Mr. S. R. Woolcock, M.I.O.B., of J. J. Udalls Building Co., Ltd., Southampton. Mr. L. A. Walden, M.I.O.B., Managing Director of Walden & Son Henley Ltd.

Representatives of the Building Trades Operatives: Mr. J. A. Dunne, General Secretary, National Association of Operative Plasterers. Mr. J. W. Higgs, Divisional Secretary, Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers.

Ministry of Housing and Local Government Representative: Major-

General N. A. Coxwell-Rogers, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Ministry of Labour and National Service: Mr. H. S. Gosney, C.B.E.

Ministry of Works: Major-General G. L. S. Hawkins, C.B., M.C.

A special survey on Sheffield dealing with recent architectural and building activity in that area will appear in next week's issue.

HONOUR

Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., has been elected an Associate of the Royal Scottish Academy.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The City Architect and Planning Officer of Coventry would welcome information on building materials and products, and especially new ideas, to be used in conjunction with the large building programme now being undertaken and for the Departmental Library.

Will firms send information and samples to Mr. Donald Gibson in the



THE SKYSCRAPER IN DECLINE
Projected fifty storey, ten million dollar, building in New York.
Architect: H. I. Feldman.

first instance; interviews will be arranged in suitable cases by appointment.

The Coventry Society of Architects held their Annual Dinner at Leamington Spa last week. The toast "The Royal Institute of British Architects" was proposed by Mr. D. Kaye, Chairman of the Society. Mr. F. J. Osborne, Past President of the Birmingham and Five Counties A.A., responded.

APPOINTMENTS

To assist the special housing programme for miners which was announced in the House of Commons on February 28, the National Coal Board set up a Housing Association.

The Housing Association have now appointed as their General Manager Mr. Miles Hudson, F.R.I.C.S., A.R.I.B.A., at present Principal Surveyor with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Mr. Hudson has been seconded to the Association by the Ministry for the purpose and has now taken up his appointment at the Headquarters of the National Coal Board.

Mr. Hudson, who is 43, has been specially concerned with the development of non-traditional permanent housing. He was formerly at the Ministry of Works where, among other forms of emergency work, he carried executive responsibility for the repair of bomb damage in London.

PARTNERSHIP

Messrs: James & Bywaters (Mr. C. H. James, R.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.R.S.A., and Mr. S. F. Bywaters, F.R.I.C.S.) have taken into partnership two of their assistants, Mr. B. J. Saunders, A.R.I.B.A., and Mr. D. Le M. Brock, B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A., Dip. C.D. (L'pool). The name of the firm remains unchanged.

COMING EVENTS

The Housing Centre Trust.

April 1, at 1 p.m. (buffet lunch, 2s 6d, at 12.30 p.m.). "Living in Flats," a lunch time discussion meeting. Henry Brooke, M.P., L.C.C., will speak on the recent Report on the Social Needs and Problems of Families Living in Large Blocks of Flats.

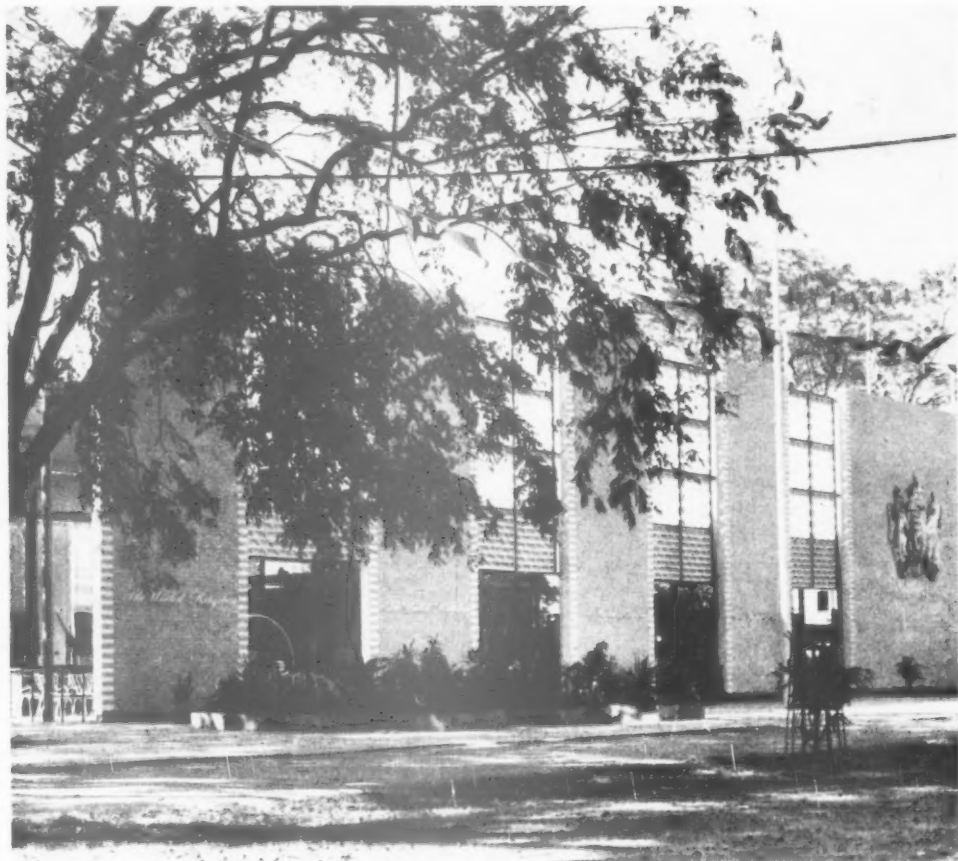
Town Planning Institute.

April 3, at 6 p.m. "The Conservation of Natural Resources," by Professor S. W. Wooldridge, D.Sc.

The Scientific Film Association.

April 4-6. Conference at Adelphi Hotel, St. Leonards-on-Sea. "Films Can Help Industry."

The Town and Country Planning Summer School, under the auspices of the T.P.I., is being held this year at Bangor in the University College of North Wales. Applications from those wishing to attend should be made before May 22. Application forms can be obtained from *The Secretary, Town and Country Planning School, 18, Ashley Place, London, S.W.1.*



United Kingdom Pavilion. Architects: Misha Black, O.B.E., F.S.I.A., Kenneth Bayes, A.R.I.B.A., M.S.I.A., Ellis Miles, A.R.I.B.A., Design Research Unit.
 Site Architects: Edwards, Reid & Begg.
 Elevation to entrance forecourt showing screen wall. Brick piers painted blue. Snowcem with white quoins, sun-break louvres painted white in hardwood frames.

COLOMBO EXHIBITION

THIS exhibition, which was to have been opened by The Queen on her way to Australia, was originally called the Colombo Plan Exhibition and the purpose was to show the people of South Asia the way in which the Plan will help the economic recovery of their countries.

The Colombo Plan is still the basic theme, but the scope of the exhibition has since been enlarged to allow the participation on a large scale of the Ceylon Government and to include a large trade section.

General Assessment

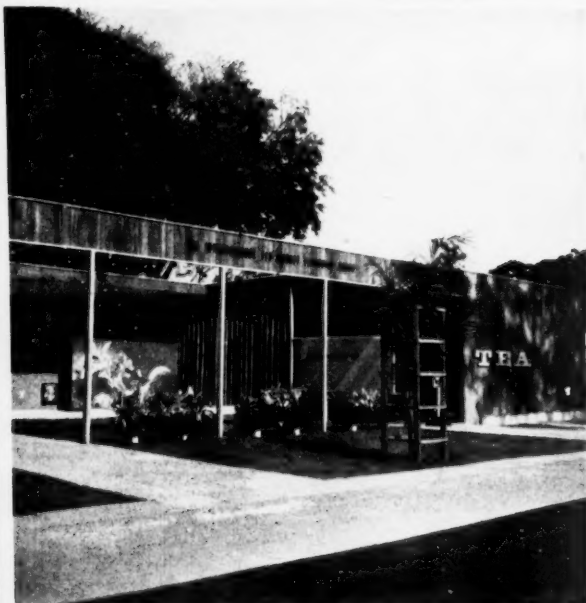
As the first international exhibition to be held in south Asia it is a great success—in organization, in attendances (so far), and even in exhibition architecture and display. Compared with New York 1939 it is small and naive, compared with the South Bank it is provincial, but considered against its own background it is an achievement—and the countries which disappoint are not only from the East.

Layout

The general layout is uninspired, but was dictated by the site—an existing part of 55 acres near the centre of the city—which already had a wide processional way, complete with monumental fountains, leading from the main entrance opposite the Town Hall. This avenue—which could hardly be ignored—has been flanked by the national pavilions and culminates in the Royal Reception Pavilion. The Ceylon Government buildings are planned on a main cross axis at one end, the Trade section on a side axis at the other, with restaurants and subsidiary buildings scattered informally among the trees. The general effect can be compared with an English Royal Show.

Ceylon Government and Trade Pavilions

Architecturally, the Ceylon Government and the Trade Sections are not of much interest. Standard shedding has been provided, constructed of disused railway lines and



Kenneth Bayes

International Tea Market Expansion Board Pavilion—built round an entrance forecourt. The flank wall on the right is repeated on the left and is painted bright yellow with white lettering. Misha Black and John Diamond.



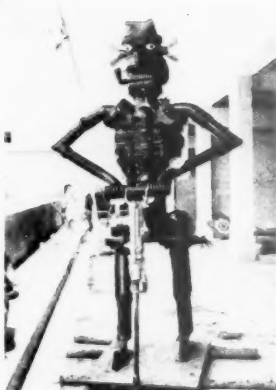
Kenneth Bayes

Canadian Pavilion—end of prefabricated hut finished in natural pine, olive green maple leaf, red title lettering.



Kenneth Bayes

*The East meets the West!
Ceylon National Pavilion
—detail of frieze of
traditional plaster figures,
and the "Iron Man,"
built up entirely of nuts,
bolts, valves, springs,
pipes, etc.*



corrugated iron facing, a system commendable for its economy and high salvage value but with no concessions to appearance. Some of the commercial firms erected their own structures but, with one or two notable exceptions (J. Revill's display for Shell, and V. Rotter's stand for Stewarts and Lloyds), with no improvement in design.

In the Ceylon Government section the standard shedding is planned in a series of courts and each Department has decorated or elaborated their own area as they considered appropriate. Of interest are the courts devoted to Fisheries and Cottage Industries who have theatrical drapes and standards of red, yellow, silver and black, and the Prison Department's decorative ceiling of cut-out coloured paper against a background of a contrasting colour giving an effect of an elaborately painted ceiling.

*United Kingdom and South East Asian
Territories Pavilions.*

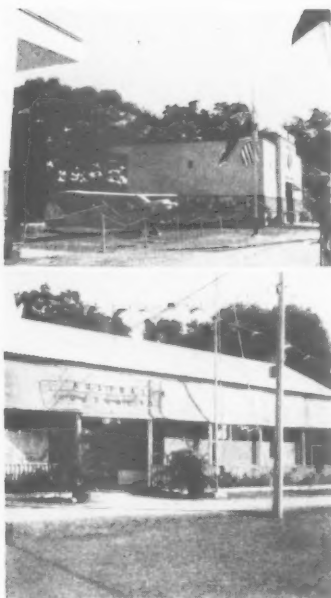
*Architects: Misha Black, O.B.E., F.S.I.A.,
Kenneth Bayes, A.R.I.B.A., M.S.I.A., Ellis
Miles, A.R.I.B.A., of D.R.U.*

*Site Architects: Edwards, Reid & Begg.
Bridges over pool connecting the two
pavilions. On left, flagpoles of South
East Asian Territories Pavilion; on right,
photographic display for Central Office of
Information; in foreground, dummy
with diving apparatus, standing in pool.*

Ceylon Government Display

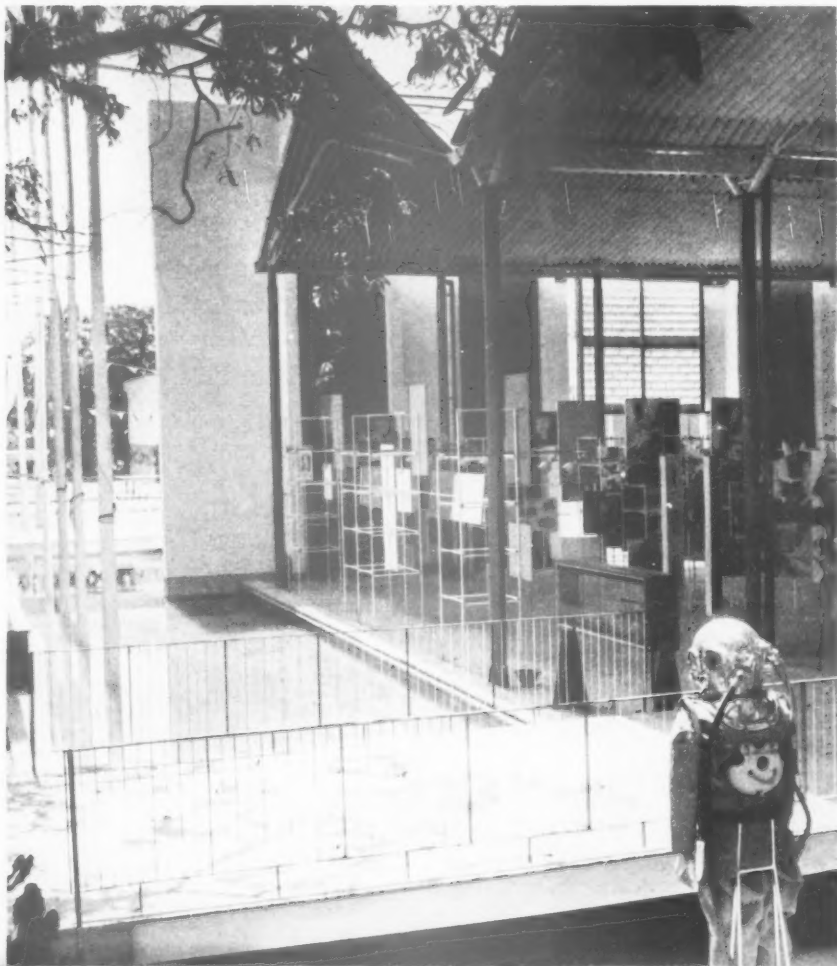
There are some excellent working models in the Government section. These include enormous models, built of concrete, of irrigation systems, with actual water flowing through and a 150ft long model of a railway electrification system, which includes 15 moving trains. Other models include an excellent relief map of Ceylon in the Survey Department, an hydro-electric sub-station, the development of the Port of Colombo, a 6-span (each of 120ft) steel bridge, reinforced concrete bridges, radio transmitting station—all projects proposed or under way. There is also an "Iron Man" built up entirely of pipes, nuts, valves, bends, springs, etc. (the technological answer to the devil mask!), a robot head to answer questions on increasing population and kindred subjects and a display of medicinal plants by the Department of Indigenous Medicine.

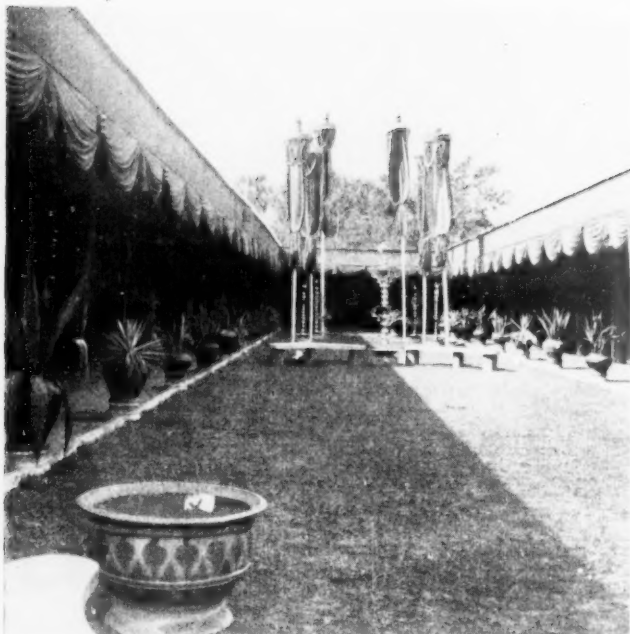
The new six-storey wing to Colombo Hospital is the nearest thing to inter-war modern, the new Independence Memorial Hall is pure Kandyan traditional ("in nobility of conception and grandeur of execution it will be unique"), the new University, the Supreme Court building and the new steel-framed Ministry of Defence building are all classical/oriental/modern (the latter will



United States Pavilion—the aircraft stands between a building devoted to display and a similar structure used as a cinema. Australian Pavilion—prefabricated Taylor Woodrow tropical structure hung with painted local reed screens.

Kenneth Bayes





Ceylon Government Section—the standard shedding as elaborated for the Cottage Industries display, with hangings and standards in red, yellow, silver and black.

Kenneth Bayes



Floral Displays—an open structure of bamboo, timber and local matting, so closely integrated with two trees as to be almost indistinguishable.—Architect: Geoffrey Bawa.

Kenneth Bayes



Ceylon National Pavilion—built round a forecourt and embellished with traditional motifs. The red and white flagpoles are decorated with hoops with hanging pennants of paper.

Kenneth Bayes



Indonesian Pavilion—traditional cornices and capital decoration in gilt low relief. Mural in portico also in low relief in various shades of gilt.

Kenneth Bayes



Maldivian Islands Pavilion, constructed in timber and painted in two shades of green, with mauve, yellow and crimson trim.

Kenneth Bayes



Laos Pavilion—interesting traditional forms are applied to a structure faced with building board. Tiles on porch roof are painted.



Vietnam Pavilion—yellow walls with crimson trim and gilt dragons.



Pakistan Pavilion—Neon title lettering and symbol with colour scheme of white, grey and blue.

COLOMBO EXHIBITION

"embody the most up-to-date methods in building and decorative technique"—whatever that may be).

National Pavilions

There are twelve national pavilions—United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Australia, South-East Asian Territories (Singapore, Malaya, North Borneo, Sarawak and Brunei), India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Indonesian, Maldivian Islands, Laos and Vietnam. All these countries are either recipient or contributory countries under the Plan.

From a Western point of view the most satisfactory buildings architecturally are the United Kingdom/South-East Asian Territories group and the Canadian; for general popularity the Indonesian Pavilion comes an easy first; for odd architectural interest (maybe very personal) there is the Ceylon, Maldivian Islands and Laos Pavilions. The remainder are dull without being even vulgar.

The United Kingdom and South-East Asian Territories group, architects—Misha Black and Kenneth Bayes (Design Research Unit) and Edwards, Reid and Begg (site architects) consists of two buildings separated by a long, narrow strip of water with jets playing for the whole length of one side and with a common entrance forecourt and rear court for exhibits. The main structure of both buildings is Taylor Woodrow prefabricated tropical shedding (designed by Arcon). The shedding of the U.K. building is screened on the front elevation with a screen wall of wide brick piers painted with bright blue "Snowcem" with quoins picked out in white, interspersed with wood sun louvres painted white in hardwood frames. The frontage of the South-East Asian Territories building, the axis of which is at right angles to the U.K. building, is left with the interesting gable form of the Arcon structure exposed and is filled at a lower level with sun-break screens of local matting. On other elevations the bays of the open shedding have been filled by Venetian blinds from eaves to floor.

The display structure in the South-East Asian Territories building (designed by Austin Frazer of Design Research Unit) is interesting in its use of local materials—bamboo, cane, reed mats, etc.—in non-traditional forms.

The Canadian Pavilion is small, carefully detailed and very well finished. The basic construction is a prefabricated wooden building with aluminium roofing. The design is simple and the colour scheme of olive green, white and natural wood (with red, blue and yellow name panels) is effective.

The Indonesian Pavilion has the direct, simple appeal of a good second year esquisse for an asymmetrical monumental building. The strong contrast of the vertical portico with the horizontal arcade, embellished with gilt columns, low relief and murals, is the stuff of newly found independence. In this particular idiom it is entirely successful.

The Ceylon National Pavilion is in the traditional Kandyan style with a large central building flanked with low side wings and loggias enclosing a forecourt of grass, flowers, lotus pool and two decorative flagpoles. Traditional sculptured forms enliven the building and inside are examples of the local talent for creating ornate flower forms from coloured paper for decoration of wall or ceiling. Ceilings are also elaborately painted in patterns of yellow, red and grey.

The Maldivian Islands Pavilion gave the impression, during construction, of a charming bijou Victorian garden pavilion. The unfortunate lettering and painting in two shades of green, with mauve, yellow and crimson trim, detracted from this impression on completion. But this building had the distinction of housing, to my mind, the

most delightful display of the exhibition—a wall hung with kites, of the thinnest paper, in every conceivable colour, in a variety of fascinating shapes and deliciously decorated.

Laos produced a building with little real architectural merit, but using interesting forms. A rhomboid plan with a single pitch roof falling to one corner provided the basic shape to which were applied traditional columns and a variety of plastic forms. These forms were more satisfactory when they grew out of the building than when they were later picked out in contrasting colours.

Of the other national pavilions little need be said. India had an elaborate entrance feature, internally illuminated at night, leading into a compound of sheds rather like B.I.F. shell stands, bursting into central features here and there. Australia, like the United Kingdom, used Arcon shedding but with no attempt at integrating it into any architectural

scheme. The United States, Vietnam and Pakistan put up buildings undistinguished in form or colour, somewhat in the style of Wembley.

Tree Lighting

The exhibition by night is entrancing, mainly because of the remarkable gift of the Ceylonese for tree lighting. Over 500 trees are illuminated, some of them with as many as 2,000 bulbs. The colours range from a delicate peach blossom pink to the purple of ripe grapes. In most cases only one colour is used for each tree; sometimes the bulbs are scattered evenly over the tree (some so near the ends of twigs that it is incredible how they were fixed), in other cases the bulbs are grouped in clusters and hang like heavy fruit. The final effect is magical in splendour and magnificence.

KENNETH BAYES

Building Restrictions and Architects' Fees

THE decision of the Court of Appeal in the recent case of *Young v. Buckles* is one of considerable interest and importance to architects engaged in private practice. The plaintiff, himself an architect, claimed £48 10s for professional work in respect of building operations carried out at the defendant's premises, the sum in question being made up of three items, namely:—

(1) a charge of 8 per cent on £525, the amount for which a licence was granted by the Ministry of Works, for preparing and drawing plans for alterations and for obtaining licences, £42.

(2) A charge of £2 2s for making an application under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, in connection with development charges.

(3) A charge of £4 8s representing 5 per cent on a sum of £88 8s for supplying and fixing a beer pump.

The value of the work which was eventually carried out and for which the plaintiff from time to time granted certificates was in all some £700, £175 at least in excess of the £525 which was the amount for which a licence was given under the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

At the time when the plaintiff commenced proceedings the defendant had paid £472 to the contractors, and so, if the plaintiff's fees had been paid, the licensed amount would not have been exceeded. The defendant, however, contended (a) that by virtue of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, reg. 56 A (4) architects' fees were included in the sum allowed to be spent under the licence, and that, as the licence limit had been exceeded, the plaintiff's claim was unenforceable; and (b) that an architect who supervised the execution of an illegal building contract was guilty of an offence under the Defence (General) Regulations, reg. 55 A (6), and could not recover his fees.

In disposing of the first contention, the Master of the Rolls, Sir Raymond Evershed, said that a man might engage the services of the most eminent architect in the country to design for him a palace or a cathedral, and the obvious fact that no licence would be granted for that work could not affect the right of the architect to claim payment for his professional services. He went on to say that the question must turn on the effect of the language used in the relevant part of reg. 56 A (4), which is as follows:—

"In computing, for the purposes of this regulation, the cost of an operation or of any work, regard shall be had to the value of any goods or services used for the purposes thereof, notwithstanding that the provision thereof did not involve the expenditure of money solely or primarily for the purpose of that particular operation or work."

and pointed out that this does not say that *there must be taken into account the amount of the charges*, but that regard must be had to the value of the services.

In the result, the court held (1) assuming that the licensed amount included the plaintiff's fees at the date of the commencement of proceedings, payment of the amount claimed added to the sums already paid would not have caused the amount limited by the licence to be exceeded; illegality only attached to the excess over the licensed amount, and a contract was only illegal in so far as it involved a claim for payment of a sum larger than that for which the licence was granted; and, therefore, when the plaintiff issued his plaint he had a cause of action, was not a party to an illegal contract, and was entitled to the sum claimed; and (2) in any event, services as an architect such as those rendered by the plaintiff were not "services used for the purpose of a building operation" within the meaning of the Defence (General) Regulations, reg. 56 A and, therefore, fees payable to architects or other professional persons in connection with building operations were not included in the amount of expenditure permitted by the licence.

Society of Chemical Industry Road and Building Materials Group

Conference on Application of Research

A whole-day Conference on the application of the research reviewed at the Building Research Congress, 1951, is being organised by the above Group of the Society of Chemical Industry with particular reference to Papers presented to Division 2 of the Congress.

Those proposed for discussion at this Conference are:—

1. General trends in the applications of research in building materials.
2. Influence on practice, of the performance of burnt clay products in structures.
3. The extent to which concrete quality control is being applied and the results thereof.
4. The use of lightweight concretes.
5. Modern improvements in stone housing.
6. The use of alternative varieties of timber, and the durability of flooring.

The Conference is to be held at the Institution of Structural Engineers, 11, Upper Belgrave Street, on April 17, in two Sessions, 10.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., and 2.0 p.m. to 5.0 p.m. It is anticipated that copies of original papers and of the discussions which took place will be available shortly, for those who were not members of the Congress and desire to attend this Conference.

Those wishing to take part are invited to advise the General Secretary of the Society of Chemical Industry, 56, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Bound copies of the Proceedings of the Congress are available to members of participating bodies at the price of 17s 6d direct from the Organising Secretary, Building Research Congress, Building Research Station, Watford, Herts. A limited number of copies of loose papers are available, price 2s 6d, also from the Organising Secretary.



South-west corner of barn showing windows to principal bedroom. The single pivoted light has been added to the old window.



The south front of the house before completion.

Converted Oast House in Kent

architects : F. L. MARCUS, Dipl. Ing. Arch. (Original)
TREVOR DANNATT, A.R.I.B.A. (Completion)

THIS house, of which the main rooms face south and overlook a small valley, was originally an oast house group consisting of two square and two circular kilns with a connecting barn (dated 1910). The alterations were done in several stages, and the first part was finished in 1939; the conversion has been completed since the war.

One of the square kilns was demolished and the other converted into the large living-room (with fireplace recess and balcony) and the study of the owner, who is an author and poet, over. The ground floor of the barn was converted into dining-room, kitchen, and a small bedroom and bathroom. Two circular bedrooms at upper level in the kilns completed the first stage.

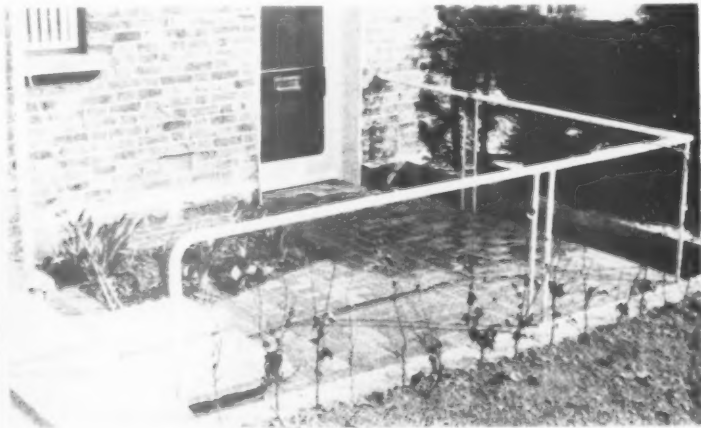
The completion was entirely concerned with the barn and consisted of making two new bedrooms and bathrooms in the upper part, spiral stair to study from principal bedroom, and altering the ground floor to provide a proper entrance from the road, large entrance hall, enlarging the kitchen and

modifying the original staircase to a more generous arrangement.

Throughout the design the simple character and sense of space of the old building has been retained by direct rather open planning with glazed connecting doors wherever practical, exposing as much of the main structure as possible and not attempting to make a conventional "upholstered" house. The luxury is in its spaciousness and clarity.

A step down from the road level leads to the brick-paved entrance. The front door (glazed with obscured glass) leads to a draught lobby with clear glazed door, and from here there is a view right through to the side garden and a cherry orchard. The stair is screened by a panel which is coloured a brilliant sky blue; approaching the dining-room there is a view through two glazed doors into the garden and the valley beyond, which is also seen from the main dining- and living-room windows. A glazed door connects these two rooms and the living-room also has a side window and door into the garden. There is a large fireplace in a wide recess and the balcony over can be reached by the

A Stone step leads down to the brick-paved entrance area with flower bed, which is separated from the road by a simple tubular rail, painted white. The adjoining lavatory window is screened with louvres and a light is built into the wall.





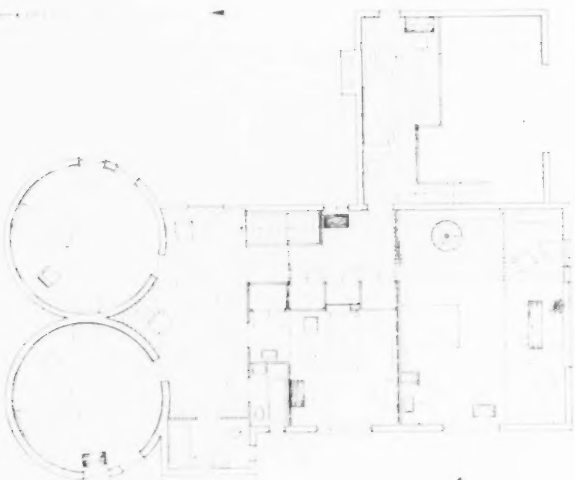
SECTION

small stair in the living-room or from the upper landing. This is a long L-shaped space which appears to be extended into the principal bedroom (which also looks over the valley) through the lightly obscured glass screen and sliding door which separates the two spaces.

Throughout the upper part the main roof shape is shown inside up to purlin level where the ceiling becomes flat. The insulation board lining is left natural finish and the three roof trusses where they are exposed are natural wood colour after cleaning off. Otherwise the general colour is white with some grey on paintwork, and in certain places small areas of clean cool colour to contrast with the natural warm tones.

The exterior, apart from the addition of new windows, has not been much altered and retains the simple vernacular character of the Kentish Oast House.

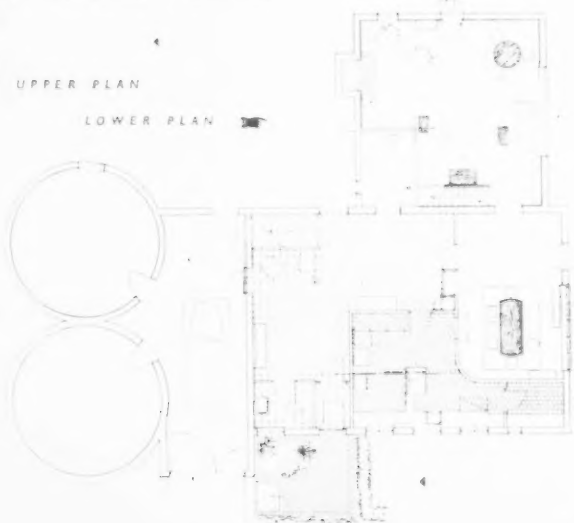
The architect for the original conversion was F. L. Marcus, Dipl. Ing. Arch., who was also consulted over the rest of the work, for which Trevor Dannatt, A.R.I.B.A., was the designer. The builders were Messrs. George and Martin, of Staplehurst, Kent.

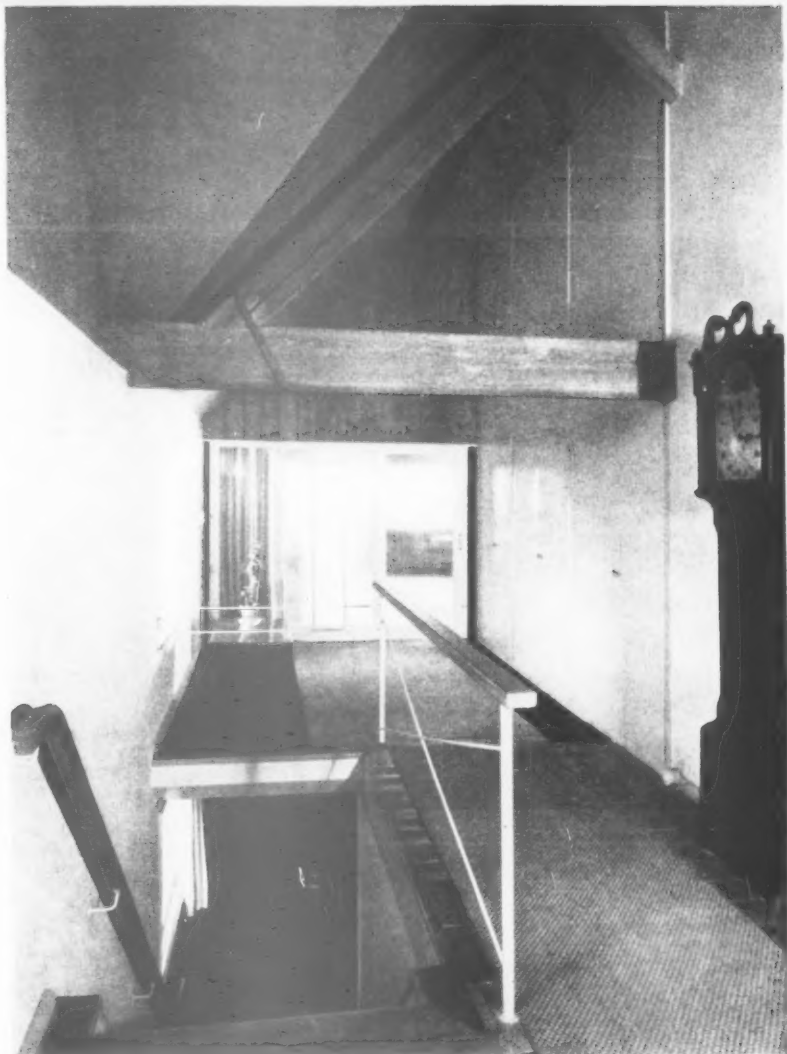


UPPER PLAN

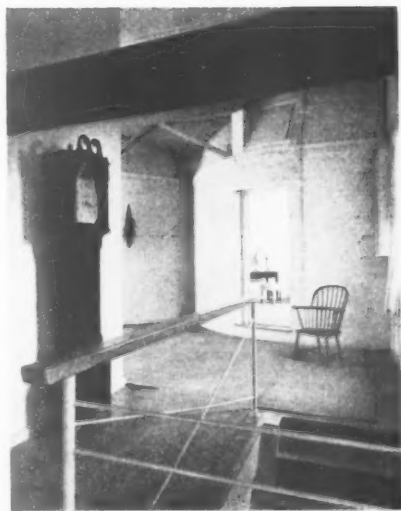
LOWER PLAN

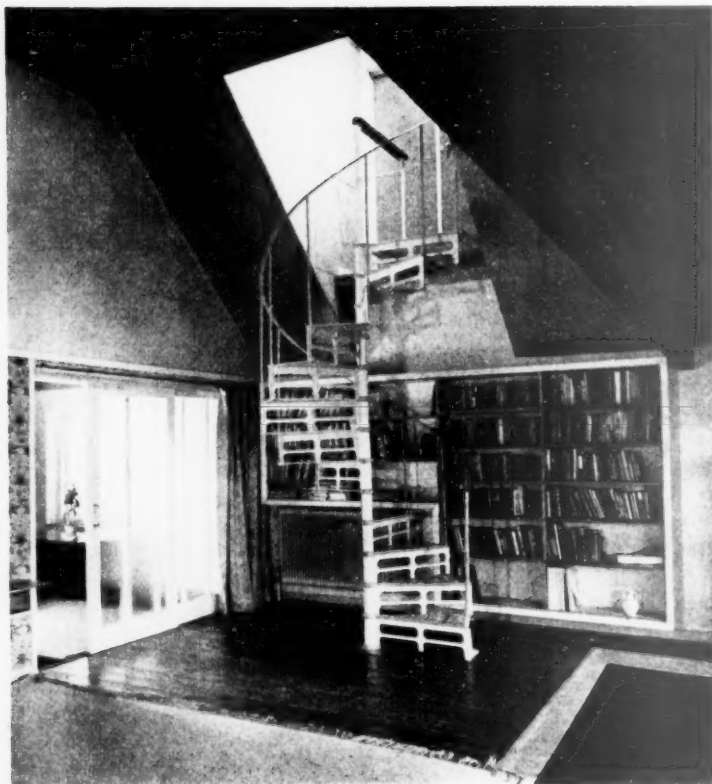
CONVERTED
OAST HOUSE
IN KENT





The upper landing looking towards glass screen of principal bedroom. The exposed truss and fibre boarded ceiling and vertical boarding over screen are all left with a natural finish. Walls are white and paint-work grey. The view below shows the upper landing and exterior of the two circular kilns converted into bedrooms.

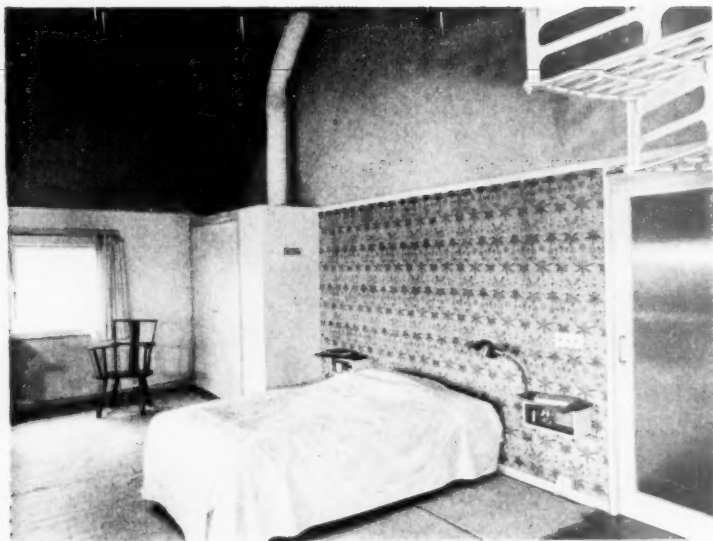




architect

TREVOR DANNATT

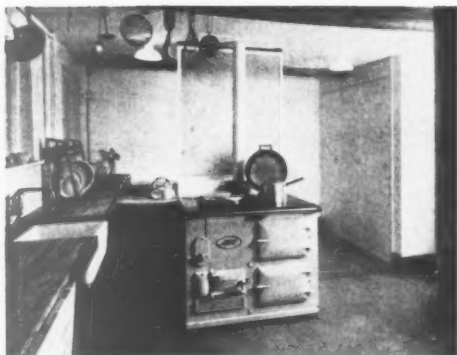
Principal bedroom showing spiral stair to study over living room and glass screen at end of landing. The stair is top lit from skylight. Treads and rail are grey, risers white, soffits of tread and underside of rail light blue, uprights lemon yellow. Exposed truss left natural colour. Bookshelves are oak with a white painted surround to emphasize the shape. The radiator is pressed steel.



Principal bedroom. Ceiling natural fibre board, walls generally white. Wall behind bed is covered with Morris "Daisy" paper and the trapezoid shaped panel over is lilac colour. Paintwork white with grey architraves, etc. Sliding door leads to landing. The cupboard contains a washbasin and the flue from the cooker below passes through but is exposed above cupboard top (see section). Pivoted half of side window beyond.



Entrance hall looking toward sliding door to garage. Cast iron column is part of the old construction. Screenwall to stair forms a panel of brilliant colour (sky blue). Other walls white, floor cork tiles.



Kitchen looking towards washup and laundry (formerly a bathroom). Wired glass screen behind cooker, red quarry tile floor.

The living room within the square kiln showing balcony over fireplace recess and small staircase. Walls and paintwork white. The study is in the upper part of the kiln over the living room.



C o n v e r t e d
O a s t H o u s e
i n K e n t

The Crosswall Low Cost House

Architect: STUART R. MATTHEW, A.R.B.A.
(David Carr & Stuart Matthew)



Perspective View

THIS house has been planned to meet the present-day needs for reducing costs, saving materials and creating architectural interest. It is proposed to build an experimental block on a site facing south-west at Broomridge, East of Stirling.

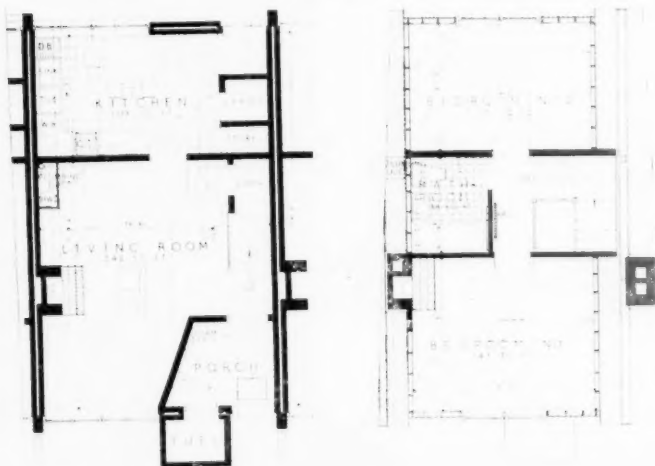
The reduction of road frontage was an early consideration in preparing the design and a terraced type plan without pends has been adopted. Each house has a frontage centre to centre of 17ft 5in, an arrangement which should produce hidden savings in costs of roads, footpaths, fencing and services compared with a normal house of say 22ft 6in—28ft frontage.

Similarly by the omission of pends there should be considerable reduction in the costs of footpaths to the back gardens which are approached by common lanes accessible at the end of each block.

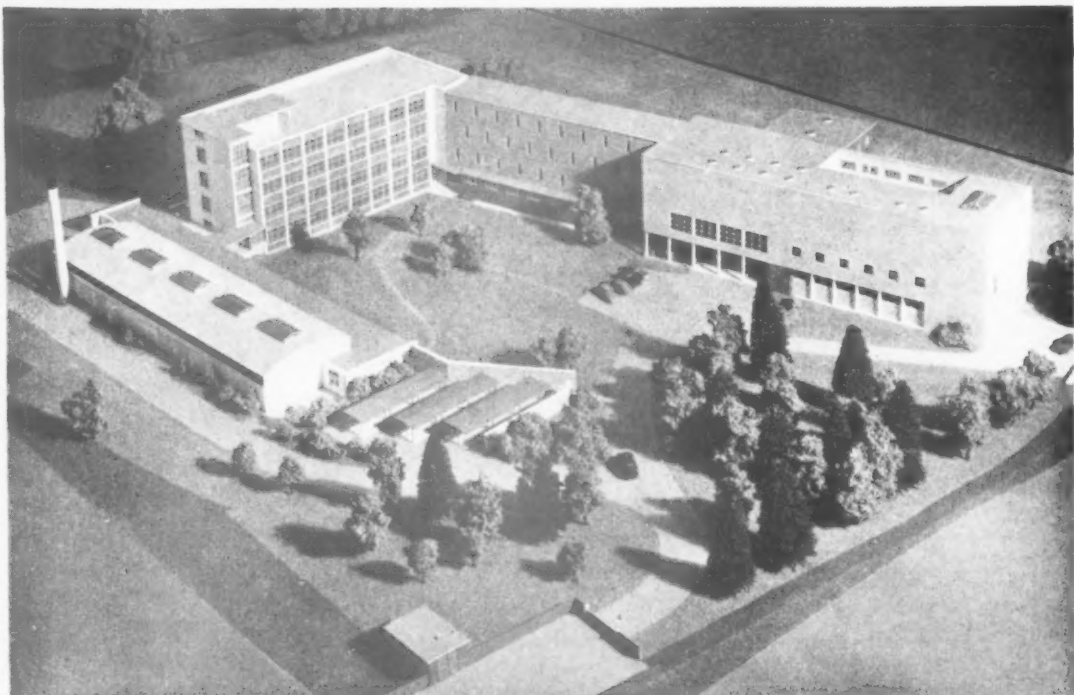
There should be a saving in the cost of brickwork by the reduction of external structural walls. These are normally along the front and back of the building. In this instance they are cavity party walls running from front to back. The front and rear gables of the house are constructed of framed timber units with external weather-boarding backed by roofing felt and internally with glass wool and plasterboard designed to give adequate thermal insulation.

The total area of the plan is within the requirements for the Department of Health for Scotland for a 3-apartment house (770 sq ft).

Hot water would be provided from a back boiler in the living room fire. The cylinder is within a vertical service duct in the living room from which all plumbing and heating services branch off horizontally to the kitchen sink, to the bathroom fittings and to a radiator on the first floor landing. The latter is heated by an independent circuit run from the cylinder. One rain water pipe is required for each house. All drainage and rain water run to the rear of the house requiring a single drain track.



PLANS



Model of the proposed college which is described overleaf

ILKESTON COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION for Derby County Council

Director of Education:

J. L. LONGLAND, MA

architects:

NORMAN & DAWBARN

in collaboration with

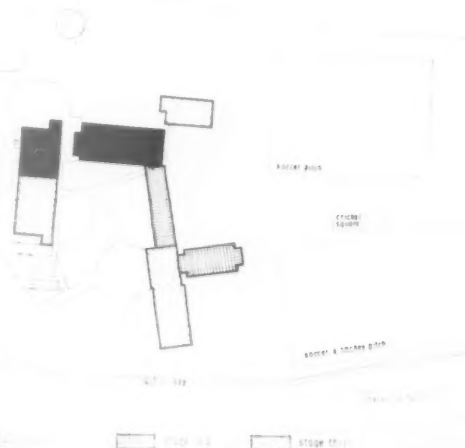
F. HAMER CROSSLEY

Dip., Arch., F.R.I.B.A.

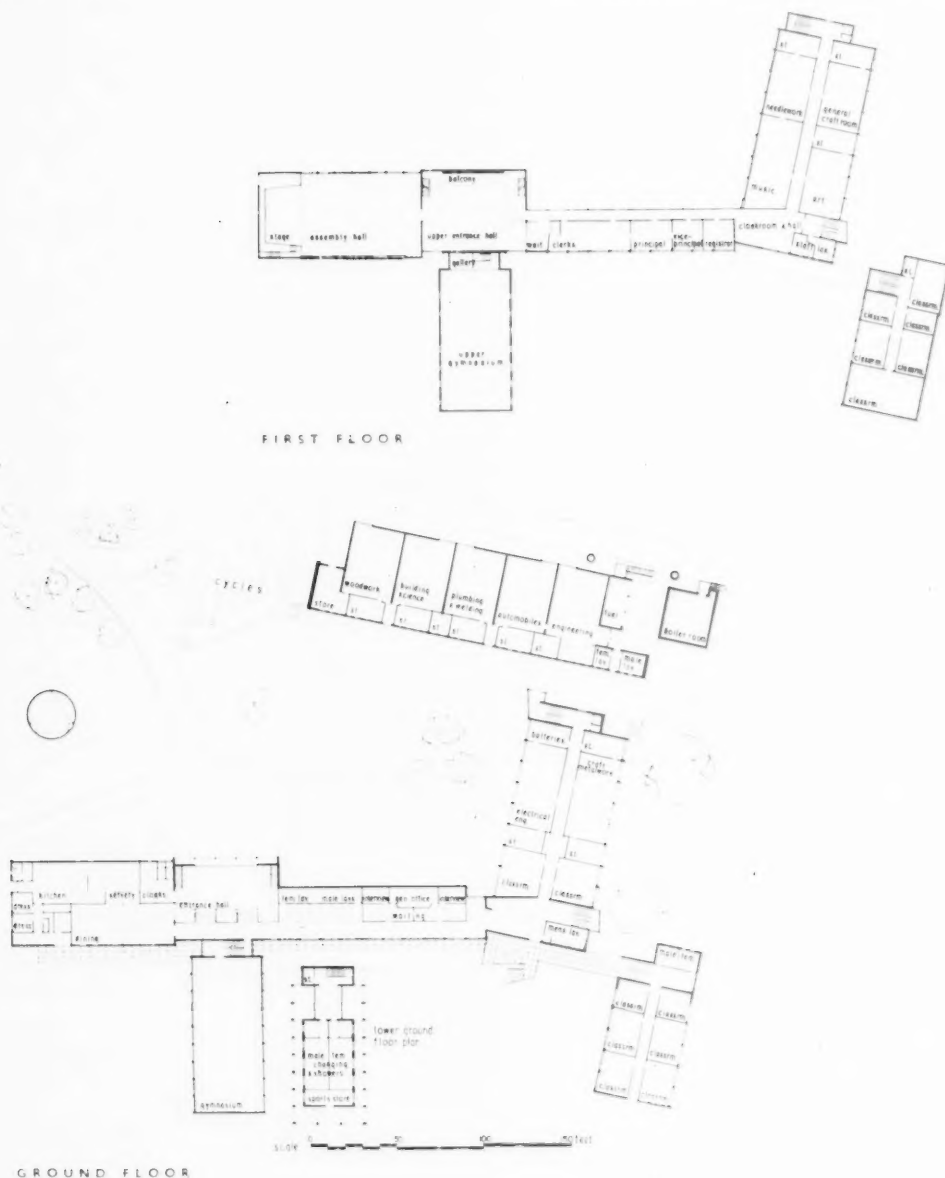
assistants-in-charge:

H. M. TARDREW, A.R.I.B.A.

L. EVANS

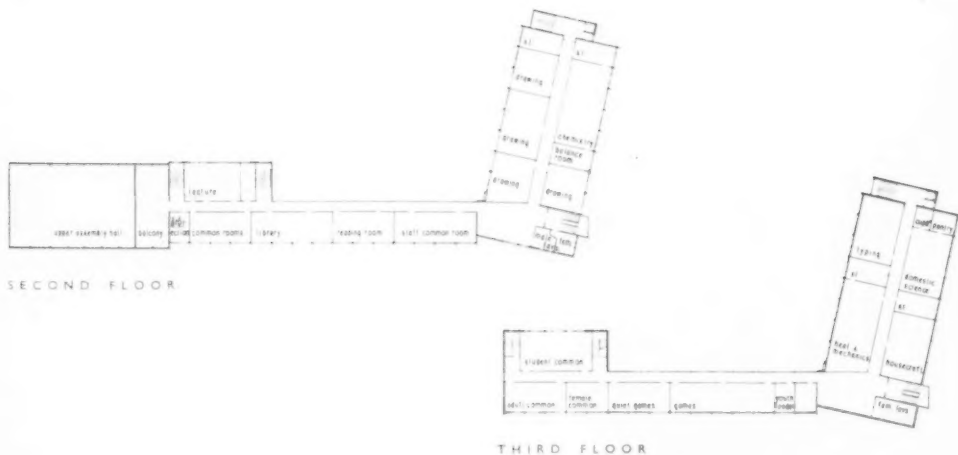


BLOCK PLAN



ILKESTON COLLEGE of Further Education is to be the first of twenty such colleges which have been planned for Derbyshire, and the experience gained in Ilkeston, mistakes as well as successes, will govern and modify the plans for the other colleges. Each of

these colleges will be designed to provide, as their first purpose, the kinds of training which boys and girls working in local industries require. Students at these colleges will also need to continue their general education. They must have opportunities for main-



SECOND FLOOR

THIRD FLOOR

taining their physical fitness. And the colleges must also have a corporate life of their own, through which students can learn the disciplines of self government, of comradeship and of responsibility, essential in a civilized community.

It is hoped that these colleges will be fully used outside the day-time hours during which their young students are released from employment. They are expected to become the main centres for youth activities in each area, and in some places the Youth Employment Bureau will be housed in the college buildings. There will also be classes for adults, particularly in the evenings, and every good college should become a focal point for the lectures and courses of the University Extra-mural Departments and the Workers' Educational Association.

The Ilkeston College will be built in instalments, the first of which should be ready by the end of 1952. This first instalment must necessarily be largely confined to the things needed for practical training—classrooms, laboratories, workshops—but it includes a canteen and its kitchen, and space for the Youth Employment Bureau.

For the present, machine shop practice, foundry work and pattern making will continue in the workshops at the Stanton Ironworks Training Centre, painting and decorating, carpentry and brickwork at the Government Training Centre, Long Eaton, and plumbing at the Ilkeston Gas Works. Eventually training in all the trades will be centred on the college, with the exception of foundry work and pattern making, for which it is hoped to continue to use the excellent workshops of the Stanton Ironworks Training Centre.

Work on the second instalment of the college should begin in 1953, and on the final instalment in 1956.

The 13-acre site is near the junction of the Nottingham and Derby roads as they come into Ilkeston.

The main buildings are at the top of a hill site sloping down to the South to playing fields. At the foot of the hill is a new Primary School.

The structure of the four-storey block in the first instalment is a reinforced concrete frame built on piles. The external panel walls are cavity brickwork and the floors are in situ concrete using patent steel trough shuttering. The workshop block is a single-storey steel frame structure with bowstring roof trusses covered with corrugated asbestos sheeting.

Heating is by low-pressure hot-water system serving radiators generally placed under windows with special air-intake grilles in a double window cill; in the workshops unit heaters are run off the same hot-water system, which is served by solid-fuel boilers gravity fed from R.C. bunkers.

Part of the workshop block will be used as a temporary Dining Room with provision in adjoining servery for re-heating meals, cooked in a nearby Central Kitchen.

Ceilings generally are woodwool slabs suspended to cover main beams and afford space for horizontal runs of sink wastes, gas and electrical services. Corridor ceilings are in fibreboard suspended to form service duct with access panels where necessary.

Floors in corridors are finished with cork tiles, staircases in terrazzo; classroom and laboratory floors are in asphalt tiles, quarry tiles or linoleum.

The roof deck is covered with two layers of 3-ply roofing felt finished with asbestos cement tiles.

Main services are sized to enable future instalments to be built without interfering with occupied buildings. Rooms being used temporarily as Library, offices, etc., are being fitted now with the plumbing wastes and service points which will be required for their ultimate use.

IN PARLIAMENT

New Towns Progress

A "progress report" on the new towns by the Minister of Housing and Local Government resulted from a number of questions put to him by Mr. Sparks on March 18. The position on February 29 was given in the tabular statement in next column:—

London Unemployed

Sir Walter Monckton, Minister of Labour, informed Lt. Col. Lipton that there were 8,519 building workers unemployed in Greater London on February 11. This total included over 4,000 painters and about 2,500 labourers. Employment exchanges were making every effort to find suitable employment for these men. Painting and decorating work was being licensed without restriction by the Ministry of Works and by local authorities. The general ban on new building work during the period December, 1951, to February, 1952, was lifted in the London area. He added that he had every hope that most of them would be back at normal work within the next few weeks. The figure in February last year, though considerably less, was nearly 6,000. (March 18.)

Limit on Repairs

Mr. Remnant asked the Minister of Works whether he would increase the £100 licence-free limit for repairs in order to keep this allowance in line with rising costs. Mr. Eccles said that this factor, with others, would be taken into account in deciding on the amount which might be spent without licence in the period beginning July 1. (March 18.)

No Comparison

Air Commodore Harvey asked the Minister of Works if he would state the comparative cost of houses erected by his department and those erected by local authorities. Mr. Eccles pointed out that the houses built under contract by the Department were frequently of a different standard from local authority houses. In many cases they were in small groups and in remote areas. All these conditions made any direct comparison impracticable. (March 18.)

More on Steel

Mr. H. Hynd drew attention to an increase of 10 per cent in road haulage charges from April 1, and asked what effect this would have on the cost of transport of materials under the control of the Ministry of Supply. Mr. Low, the Parliamentary Secretary, said that the effect of this increase on iron and steel costs could be answered only broadly. It was estimated at 3d to 4d a ton. (March 19.)

Cement Supplies

Mr. Eccles informed Mr. F. Willey that the cement companies had arranged to send substantial additional supplies of cement to north-east England. (March 21.)

Town	Houses completed	Persons housed (approx.)	Houses under construction	Persons to be housed (approx.)	Factories: No. of firms			Building and civil engineering workers	Advances, £M
					Completed	Under construction	Employed		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	
Aycliffe	403	1,310	468	1,520	—	—	518	1.5	
Basildon	135	380	479	1,560	1	2	777	1.0	
Bracknell	41	120	137	450	—	1	247	0.3	
Corby	—	—	—	—	—	—	78	0.1	
Crawley	651	1,930	686	2,230	15	2	1,736	3.0	
Cwmbran	2	10	249	810	—	—	158	0.2	
Harlow	724	2,320	1,203	3,910	7	12	2,014	3.5	
Hatfield	66	190	313	1,080	—	—	257	0.4	
Hemel Hempstead	889	2,700	736	2,390	4	—	1,624	2.8	
Peterlee	235	860	356	1,170	—	—	533	0.9	
Stevenage	380	970	725	2,360	—	—	1,658	2.5	
Welwyn	140	300	430	1,400	—	—	575	3.5	
	3,666	11,090	5,802	18,880	31	21	10,195	20.7	

* Includes one adaptation.

† Includes two extensions.

The figures in column (8) do not include workers employed on local authority housing, schools, G.P.O., gas and electricity projects.

Standard Method of Measurement

The Standing Joint Committee for the Standard Method of Measurement of Building Works receive from time to time requests for reconsideration or clarification of specific items in the Standard Method of Measurement; in addition, they have before them the recommendation of the Anglo-American Productivity Team's Report, which reads: "Consideration should be given to the simplification of the Standard Method of Measurement."

To enable the Committee to give the fullest possible consideration to these matters and to the principles involved, detailed suggestions would be welcomed from those interested.

These should be sent by May 31 next to: The Registrar, S.M.M.C., The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, 12, Great George Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- National Building Studies Research Paper No. 10. *An Economical Design of Rigid Frames for Multi-Storey Buildings*, by R. H. Wood, Ph.D., B.Sc. (Building Research Station). Published by H.M.S.O. Price 3s. 6d.
- The Modern Factory, by E. Mills, F.R.I.B.A. Published by The Architectural Press. Price 30s.
- Roman Sources of Christian Art, by Emerson H. Swift. Published by Columbia University Press (London University Press). Price 6s.
- Building Insulation, by Paul D. Close (Fourth Edition). Published by The Technical Press, Ltd. Price 40s.
- Carpet Planning and Laying Manual. Published by Carpet Review.
- Towns and Buildings, by Steen Eiler Rasmussen. Published by University Press of Liverpool. Price 21s.
- The Anatomy of Design: a series of Lectures by a Professor of The Royal College of Art. Published by Newman Neame, Ltd. Price 5s.
- Structural Adhesives. Published by Lange Maxwell & Springer, Ltd. Price 21s.
- Aspects of Housing in the Caribbean, by Caribbean Commission Central Secretariat.
- Current Property Law. Published by Sweet & Maxwell, Ltd. Subscription 20s.
- Sciography, by John M. Holmes. Published by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons. Price 15s.
- Building in England, by L. F. Salzman, F.S.A. Published by Oxford University Press. Price 50s.
- Festival of Britain. A Photographic Record by The Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd.

Preliminary Plan for Lanchashire, prepared by G. Sutton Brown.

A Book on "Old Bristol," Published by Comp. ton Dando.

Perspectives To Scale, by W. H. Fuller. Published by A Studio Publication.

"Cirencester" by Bryan Little. Published by B. T. Batsford, Ltd. Price 9s. 6d.

Art and the Nature of Architecture, by Bruce Allsopp. Published by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons. Price 16s.

The American House Today, by Katherine Morrow Ford. Price 64s.

Die Neue Stadt in Landschaft und Klima, Ch. mate—Town Districts: Consequences and Demands. By Ernst Ertl. Published by Verlag Fur Architektur Ag. Erlenbach Zurich.

University of London University College Calendar, 1951-1952. Published by University of London.

Concrete Building Encyclopedia, 3rd Edition, by T. Corkhill. Published by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons. Price 20s.

The Age of Wren, by Ralph Dutton. Published by B. T. Batsford, Ltd. Price 42s.

Hills Complete Law of Housing, by D. P. Kerrigan, B. L. and R. C. C. Davison, LL.D. Published by Butterworth & Co., Ltd.

Spens' Architects and Builders Price Book, 77th Edition, 1951-1952. Published by E. & F. N. Spon, Ltd. Price 18s.

Technisches Wörterbuch International Glossary of Housing and Town Planning Terms. Bezuiden-houlsseweg 75 The Hague. Price £1.

Timber Buildings in England, by Fred H. Crossley. Published by B. T. Batsford. Price 30s.

Electric Lighting, by C. E. Gimson, M.Sc. (Eng.). Published by Cleaver Hume Press, Ltd. Price 9s. 6d.

Synthetic Resins and Allied Plastics, R. S. Marcell and A. M. Langton. Published by Oxford University Press. Price 50s.

Norwegian Iron and Metal Products Exports. Published by The Norwegian Export Council.

Structural Theory and Design, by J. McHardy Young, B.Sc., M.I.Struct.E. Published by Crosby Lockwood & Son, Ltd. Price 25s.

Building and Civil Engineering Plant, by Spence Girdles. Published by Crosby Lockwood & Son, Ltd. Price 30s.

The Directory of British Clayworkers, 1951-1952. Published by Clay & Brick Publications, Ltd. Price 10s. 6d.

Shopping Centres, by Geoffrey Baker and Bruce Tunaro. Published by Reinhold Publishing Corporation. Price 96s.

"Bristol," by Tudor Edwards. Published by B. T. Batsford, Ltd. Price 9s. 6d.

Sound Insulation and Room Acoustics, by V. Bruil, M.Sc., D.Sc. (Copenhagen). Translated from the Danish by J. M. Borup. Published by Chapman & Hall. Price 35s.

The Design and Placing of High Quality Concrete, by D. A. Stewart, A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.E.E. Published by E. & F. N. Spon, Ltd. Price 25s.

Industrial Welfare and Personnel Management. Published by The Industrial Welfare Society. Cylindrical Tank Tables, by R. B. Andrews. Published by Butterworths Scientific Publications, Ltd. Price 15s.



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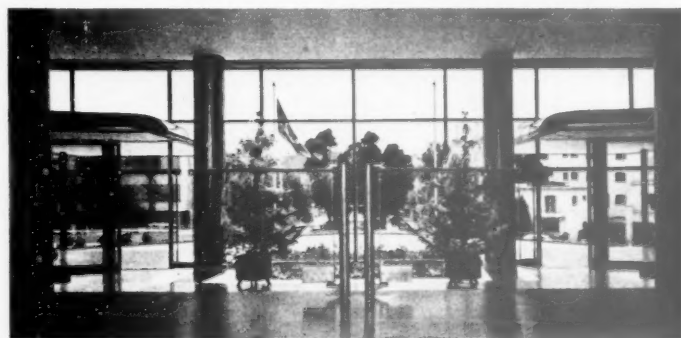
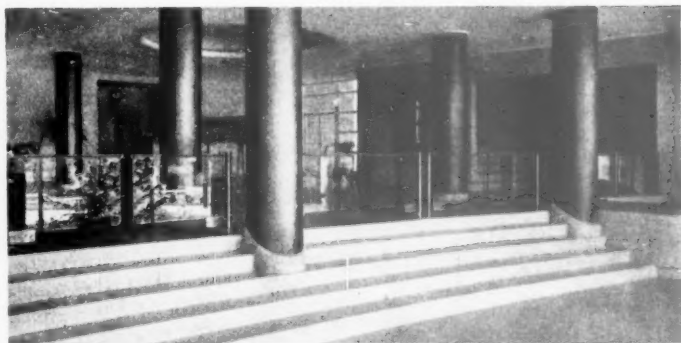
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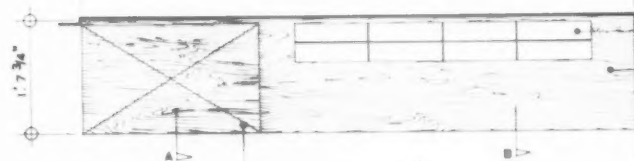
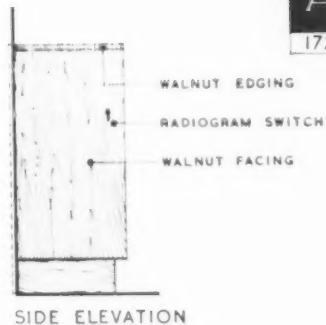
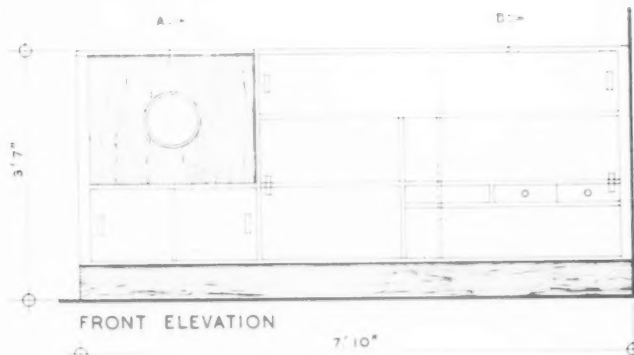
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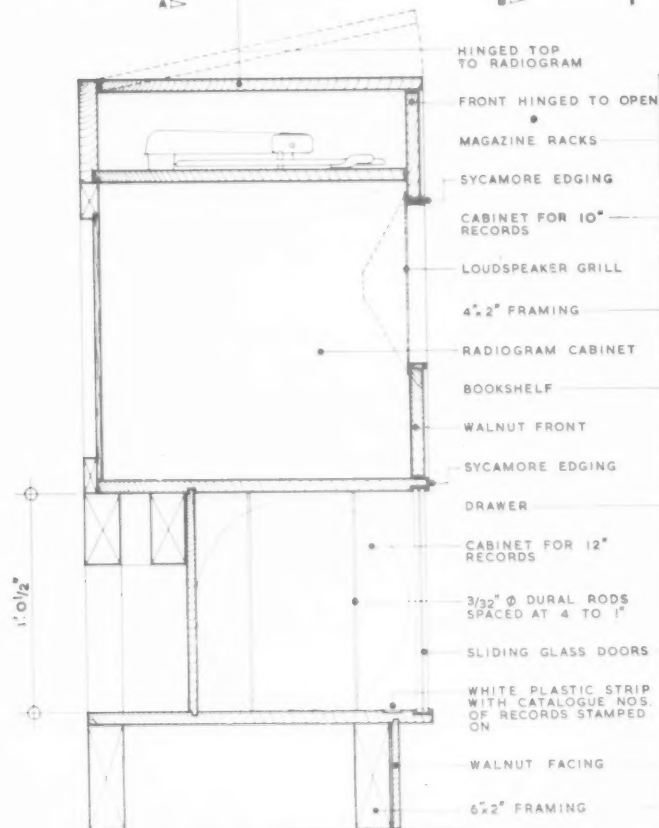
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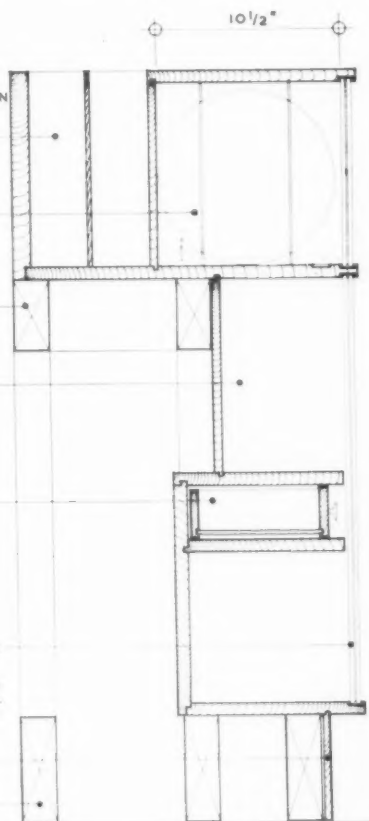




SCALE: 1" = 2' 0"



SCALE: 1 1/2" = 1' 0"





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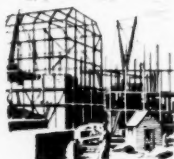
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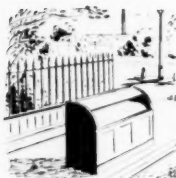


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*or a job
like that*



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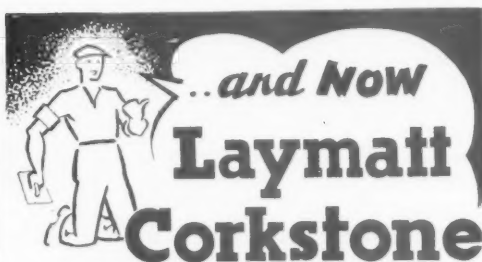
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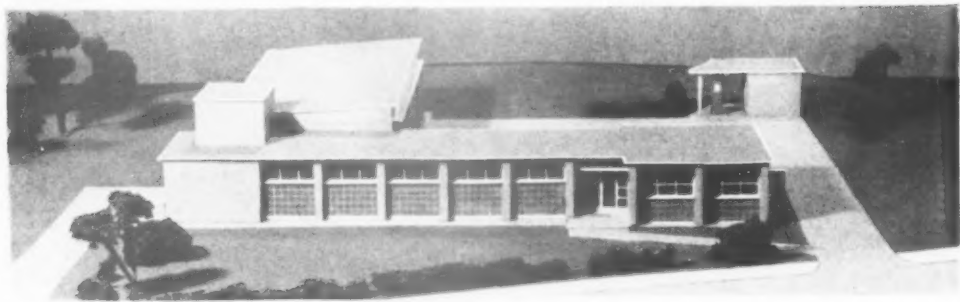
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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AMBULANCE STATIONS

SECTION 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, places upon a Local Health Authority a duty to provide Ambulance facilities:—

- (1) To deal with Emergencies.
- (2) To supplement Hospital and other Health Services.

A survey of the County Districts indicated that existing facilities, e.g., premises, vehicles and staff, could not adequately cope with the new obligations imposed by the Act, and additional Ambulance Stations would be necessary to house the type and number of vehicles required.

Two types of vehicles were agreed upon, viz.:—

- (a) Standard Ambulance — for

stretcher cases and emergencies.

- (b) A sitting case car—for use by other patients.

The County Architect was called upon to adapt existing premises where possible, and to provide nine new Stations in the 1950-51 Building Programme. A further eleven Stations were also required for the 1951-52 Programme.

The Stations had to satisfy the following requirements:—

- (1) Garaging for Ambulances and Cars—the numbers varying for each Station, and provision to be made for extension.
- (2) Accommodation of Staff on a basis of two per vehicle, plus

● Architects responsible
under the supervision
of the County Architect

G. NOEL HILL,
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K. HART, A.R.I.B.A.

Ambulance Superintendent and Telephonist, to operate a 24-hour service on the shift system.

Two types of Stations were designed, the Standard and the Divisional, the latter differing only from the former by having a Divisional Office and Store.

The most convenient Garage Unit, which allowed extension for one vehicle at a time, was found to be a bay, 24ft long by 10ft wide; the additional length and width being utilized for opening of doors and the removal of stretchers.

Each Ambulance Station provides the following accommodation:—

Garage.—1 Bay Unit per vehicle, depending on number of vehicles per Station with a maximum of eight vehicles.

Rest Room.—For use of Drivers and assistants when waiting for calls.

Dining Recess.—Where "duty" staff can prepare light meals without leaving the premises.

Office.—For Ambulance Superintendent and Telephonist. (The greater majority of calls are by telephone.)

Store.—For clean blankets and medical supplies.

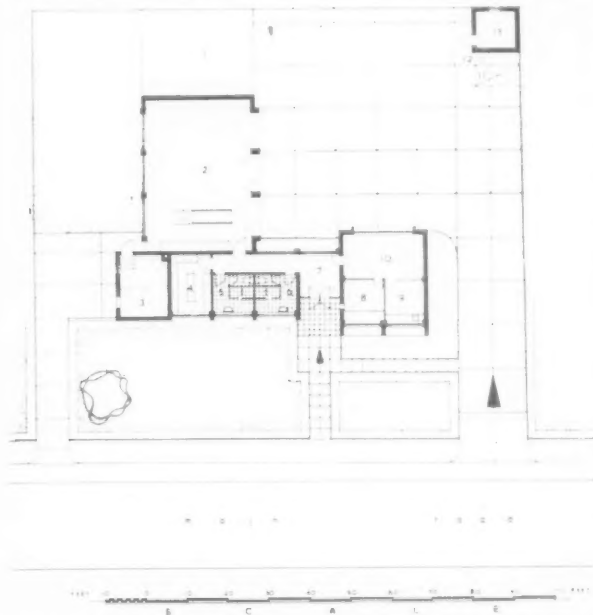
Male and Female Lav.—Allowing for mixed staffing.

Heating Chamber.—Low pressure hot water system.

Divisional Office and Store.—Where required.

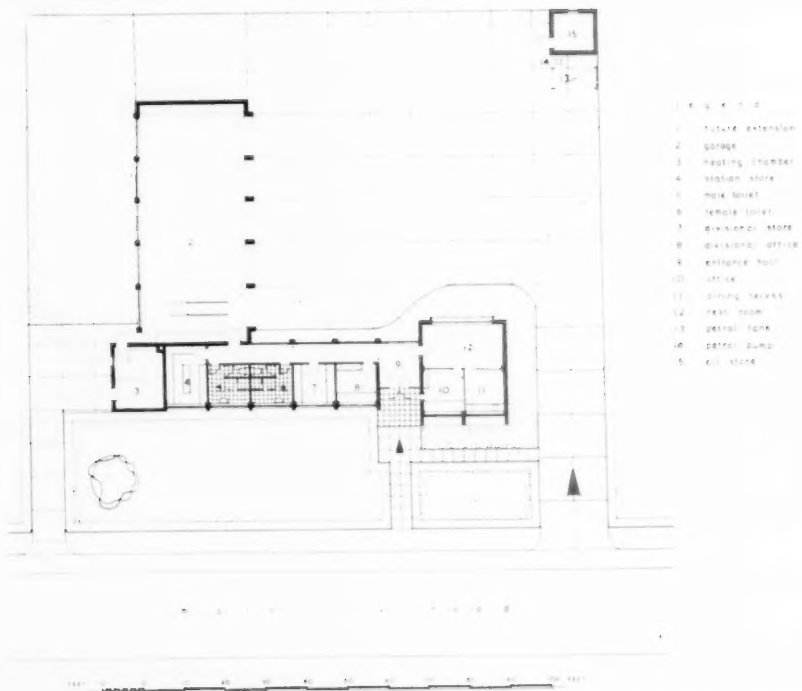
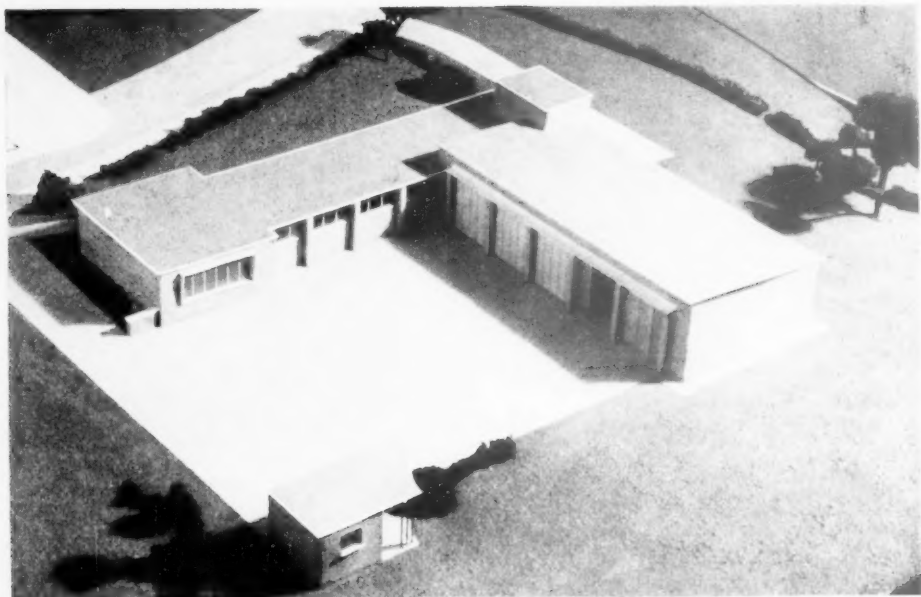
Oil Store and Petrol Pump.—With 1,000 gall. petrol storage tank.

Open Yard.—For washing down, and access for vehicles.

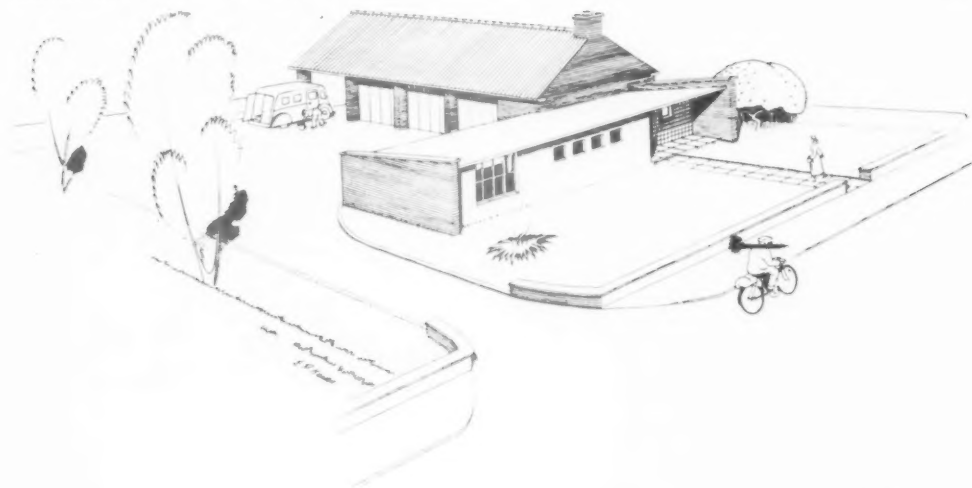


TYPE "A" STANDARD AMBULANCE STATION

1 future extension; 2 garage; 3 heating chamber; 4 station store; 5 male toilet; 6 female toilet; 7 entrance hall; 8 office; 9 dining recess; 10 rest room; 11 petrol tank; 12 petrol pump; 13 oil store.



TYPE B STANDARD DIVISIONAL AMBULANCE STATION
Under Construction



Construction

Types "A" and "B"

The original construction consisted of load-bearing brick piers with pre-cast roof units and infilling panels giving flexibility for extensions if required. (See type Plans "A" and "B" and photographs of Model.)

The Oil Store and Petrol Pump in all these cases was an independent unit.

External Finish

In most cases facings have been used depending on supplies available, but where the Station is situated in a stone district, the building has been rendered in rough cast.

Standard wood casement windows have also been used.

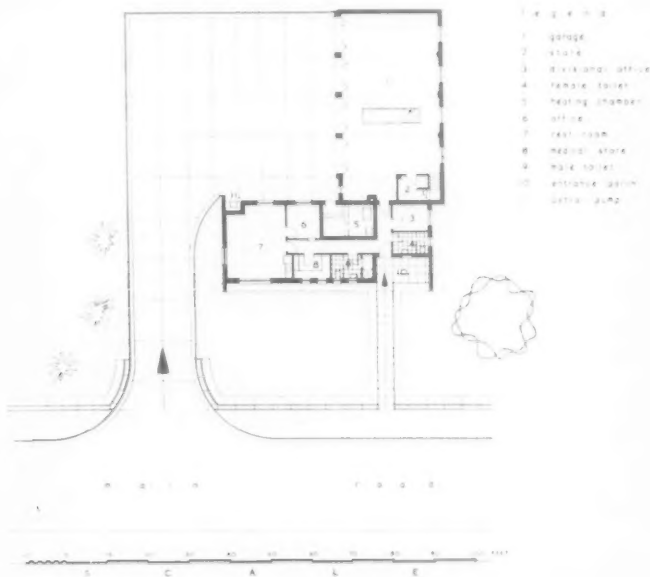
Internal Finish

The Restroom-Dining Recess and Office only have a plastered finish.

Remainder of walls are painted brick-work.

Floors are lin granolithic finish, except the Office and Rest Room which have thermo-plastic tiles.

Ceilings consist of lin insulation board used as permanent shuttering and have a skimming coat of plaster on the Office and Rest Room.



TYPE "D" STANDARD DIVISIONAL
AMBULANCE STATION: URBAN AREAS

REVISED DESIGNS

Type "C"—Rural

In some areas it was found difficult to attract local Contractors to carry out the original type of construction, that is, the schemes which included the use of steel and reinforced concrete: in view of the recent shortage of steel and the availability of timber, a new type of Standard Station has been designed which will provide economies throughout, and allow local Contractors to construct in simple materials.

This replanning has also resulted in a considerable saving in circulation area and building costs.

A pitched timber roof with light timber trusses has been substituted for the mono-pitch concrete type and the Rest Room incorporated under the main roof. The Oil Store and Dining Recess have been dispensed with, as experience has shown that they are not required. The petrol pump has been placed adjacent to the Office, in view of the fact that the office staff usually operate, check and lock up these after use.

Type "D"—Urban

This Station has been designed to conform to the Urban character and incorporates a pitched roof for the Garage and mono-pitch type for the office block—the general accommodation being substantially the same.



LEGEND

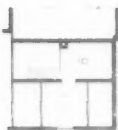
1. storage
2. stores
3. toilets
4. milk & temple
5. heating chamber
6. rest room
7. office
8. entrance vestibule
9. petrol pump
10. underground tank
11. general stores
12. ambulance stores



SECTION



SECTION



FLOOR PLAN



FLOOR PLAN

FLOOR PLAN



ELEVATION

ELEVATION

TYPE "C" STANDARD TYPE AMBULANCE STATION: RURAL AREAS

Maintenance

THE bugbear of all building owners is maintenance and in discussion with some property surveyors I am surprised what a heavy toll it can take of rental incomes. These surveyors assured me that a considerable proportion is avoided or reducible by better design, more careful selection of materials and greater care in supervision during construction.

Only a few architects and builders are normally responsible for the maintenance of the buildings they design and erect, and consequently they usually see only the errors of others and cannot learn nearly so much from what they see as they do not know fully the original specification.

From the failures one sees there is little doubt that more thought ought to be given during construction to the probable incidence of maintenance in order to avoid materials, methods of application and the selection of fittings and equipment which cannot be expected to give a reasonably long trouble-free life; also if certain items are known to require relatively frequent replacement, as may well be necessary, proper provision should be made to minimize the work and inconvenience involved. Repairs are not only costly in themselves but the cost of inconvenience to occupants can easily be very great, thus a little more care together with, on occasions, slight increases in initial cost may be a very great ultimate saving in overall costs during the life of a building.

To take a specific example of foolish economy in first cost, steel windows are subject to very hard exposure conditions and to condensation, therefore unless the metal is adequately protected when installed constant repainting becomes essential. The additional first cost of a galvanizing or similar rust-resisting coating is small. The B.S. for metal windows rightly calls for this type of treatment, although some let-up has been permitted owing to the metal supplies position and I fear that some designers, in an endeavour to produce less costly buildings, particularly houses, will be foolish enough to accept untreated metal and thus saddle the future with a heavy and unnecessary maintenance cost.

Another field in which much very unnecessary maintenance occurs is that of ironmongery such as locks, door furniture and hinges. The difference in cost between good and bad products in this group is often quite small and certainly not worth saving. I have seen many houses in which locks have failed in a very few years. Unfortunately it is difficult to decide what constitutes a good lock; I do not believe that some of the more costly ones with brass bushes and other refinements are necessarily better than some less costly ones if these are properly made. I should like to see B.S.455, which standardizes dimensions of the most common types of lock, extended by the inclusion of a test of long life to which

makers could guarantee their locks through a B.S. certification scheme.

The B.S. should also call for more durable finishes to locks, especially rim locks, where these are likely to be affected by exposure; why black japanned finishes are used I never have been able to understand as they fail and rust very quickly, especially when in the positions where rim locks are so frequently installed, for example on kitchen and shed doors; a rustproof treatment would save much ultimate trouble. Similarly hinges which are to be used under conditions of outside exposure such as on garage doors and on gates need protective coatings. It should be noted that B.S.1227 provides for galvanized finishes for the heavy types of hinge but not for ordinary butt hinges as are used on some types of door hung to open outwards, nor is an alternative to japanned finish provided for on steel tee hinges which are used on ledged doors and on framed and braced doors.

One of the heaviest maintenance costs arises from the use of the lighter qualities of water tap and from some of the very poor ball-valves on the market. I know that much criticism has been levelled at water regulations which call for taps equal in performance to B.S.1010 on the ground that their manufacture requires more scarce metal than for the old M.o.H. type; in fact, the difference in the amount of metal needed is negligible for $\frac{1}{2}$ in size taps and for $\frac{1}{4}$ in size taps I have worked out that the B.S.1010 type wants only one more ton of metal than for M.o.H. taps for something like every 25,000 taps. The saving in metal is, therefore, very small, while there is no doubt that the B.S. tap is much better from the maintenance and from elimination of waste of water aspects. As for ball-valves, B.S.1212 as a piece of mechanism is far superior to any other ball-valve and should prove to be an economy over the life of a water system. If, as seems probable, metal scarcities are with us for many years, it will not pay to be too mean in the initial use of metals.

It is gratifying to see that the Council for Codes of Practice devotes a section of each of its codes to the subject of maintenance, but this section is mainly guidance as to what will need maintenance and how to deal with it, after having built in accordance with the code. The object of the codes as a whole is to insure proper building and satisfactory materials and workmanship which will themselves reduce the need for maintenance. A study of the codes should make clear to any reader that if the job is carried out properly less maintenance is inevitable. The painting code to which I referred recently is full of information directly related to reduction of maintenance, e.g. proper design to receive and retain paint and proper preparation of surfaces to be painted. The matters which can be the cause of unnecessary upkeep or replacement are legion and only few can be cited here.

Inadequate protection against frost

which may so easily be overcome by proper design and insulation of water systems is typical of a simple action to avoid maintenance, the first cost of which involves a very small extra. The more careful selection of materials and fittings is undoubtedly the most likely source of long-term economy, but usually at some small additional initial cost, and in this respect I believe a wider use of B.S. would be beneficial as, in my experience, these usually take account of the need to provide adequate service over a long life and may, therefore, not be the cheapest goods available.

So far I have made little direct mention of maintenance arising from bad design; there is no doubt that this is often a serious contributory factor. How often one sees examples of badly designed copings and of offsets which do not throw off the water properly. Equally frequently one sees rendered or concrete facing which, owing to the situation of the building, have to be repainted, at great cost, almost annually to keep a clean appearance. Another cause of maintenance, perhaps now less frequent than in the past, is the insufficiency of precautions against the possibility of penetration of dampness, partly due to inadequate damp-proof courses, but above all to the use of unrendered or badly rendered 9 in brick walls. All these are points to which the publication of B.R.S. and M.o.W. as well as the Code of Practice make constant reference in order that the most common faults should not be repeated.

Poor quality materials and materials unsuitable for particular positions cause maintenance for which the Codes and the related B.S. give useful guidance, but these, however, do not overcome bad workmanship and insufficient supervision. Good workmanship and adequate supervision may sometimes, but by no means always, cost more money.

A wider study and the recording of failures is very necessary, but if designers and those who supervise building would take a little more trouble to keep their knowledge up to date by reading the B.R.S. publications, the B.S. and the Codes, I am certain that a great reduction in maintenance costs would be forthcoming. Any reduction in maintenance costs would be a very real contribution to the national economy since they now create a very heavy and unnecessary demand on materials and labour; as an example of the saving of labour and, in this case, scarce material I was told recently that something like 75 per cent of all copper balls made for ball-valves went for replacement purposes, but by a slight improvement in quality this replacement demand might be reduced by at least half the quantity. Here is a useful job for B.S.I. It certainly means more metal initially, but in spite of the need to economize in the use of metals it is very well worth while for the large saving involved over a relatively short period.

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Fine control taps turn from "off" through positive "full-on" to low. Finish is vitreous enamel.

Overall dimensions are 44in. high x 36in. wide x 25in. deep.

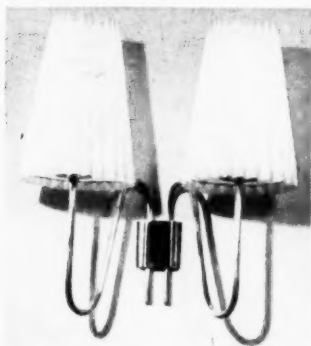
The cooking timer in the splash back is available as an extra. The burner rating is 6,000 B. Th. U. hr.



FINISHES WALLPAPERS

D4 2

This bright paper measures 8½ yds. to the piece of 18in. width. The price is 11/- per piece. The repeating pattern, of which one unit is here illustrated, is based on a cocktail recipe motif. On a white ground there is an overall green pattern. The individual vignettes contain reds and blues. The general effect of the predominating dark tones against the light background is lively without being strident.

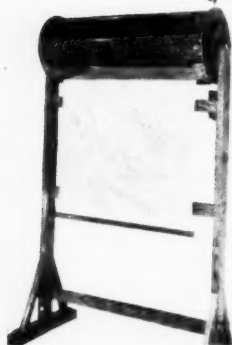


SERVICES LIGHTING

B1 36

A wall light fitting from a newly marketed range. The backplate measures 2½in x 2½in. The spread is 9in and the projection from the wall is 4½in.

Backplate and supporting arms are of bright lacquered brass. The shades are of champagne coloured pleated buckram, or may be had in red polka dot fabric. The fitting is designed for two 60-watt lamps.



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F12 3

This fitting is designed for use in offices such as those of town planning and municipal authorities. The roller is chain controlled and holds six maps the lower edges of which clip into a wood fillet which serves the dual purpose of handle, by which to withdraw the desired map from its slot, and weight, to prevent the map curling when in the down position.

MOSAICS

The names and addresses of manufacturers of any item illustrated in MOSAICS, together with more detailed information relating to their products—including price and availability—will be forwarded to readers on request.

Letters should quote the serial number and be addressed to:

The Editor,
The Architect and Building News,
Dorset House,
Stamford Street, S.E.1.

Please mark the envelope MOSAICS.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES

The Ministry of Materials announces that from Tuesday March 18, 1952, the price of imported good soft pig lead is reduced from £170 to £163 per ton delivered consumers' works. This reduction is made possible by lower prices negotiated with Commonwealth suppliers.

The Ministry also announces the removal of restrictions on the amounts of lead which may be purchased for consumption. Purchases from the Directorate of Non-Ferrous Metals, Rugby, will now be limited only by the amounts required to meet orders on consumers' books.

The Minister of Works has been in consultation with the British Bath Manufacturers' Association about the price of cast-iron baths. The association indicated that the increased costs of raw materials, fuel, freight and other items justified an increase in price, and the increase for commercial quality baths for the home trade has been fixed at 2½ per cent, to take effect from Thursday, March 20, 1952.

The association informed the Minister that it was their desire to establish a firm price for the coming year and not to increase prices again unless there were further major increases in costs. On the basis of these assurances price control over these baths has been withdrawn.

The telephone number of Messrs. Sharp Bros. & Knight, Ltd., timber merchants and joinery manufacturers, Burton-on-Trent, has been altered to Burton-on-Trent 4851/4.

The "People's House" and the "Old People's House," which are exhibited by the Government at the Ideal Home Exhibition, are fitted with the new EJMA standard wood casement windows and with EJMA standard kitchen units.

The National Rates Committee of the Road Haulage Association, the national body representing free enterprise hauliers, at a meeting in London on Thursday, March 13, recommended members to increase their rates for general haulage by 10 per cent on April 1, 1952.

This recommendation covers substantial additional costs in wages, fuel, maintenance and other items, including the Budget increase of 7½d per gallon on the fuel tax.

It is expected that where circumstances have compelled members to make any percentage increase in their rates since May, 1951, they will now only apply such further addition as will bring the total to 10 per cent.

The C.O.I.D. touring exhibition of contemporary furniture in room settings has now moved to Plymouth, where it will be shown at the store of E. Dingle & Co., Ltd., from March 21 to April 5.

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in bold type. References indicate: (a) type of work, (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the

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OPEN

BUILDING

BEBINGTON B.C. (a) Contract No. 1. 62 houses and 11 garages, Glenburn Avenue Estate, Eastham. (b) Borough Engineer, Brackenwood, Higher Bebington. (c) 2gns. (e) April 14.

BECKENHAM B.C. (a) 1 block of 4 maisonettes, Mackenzie Road. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) £2. (e) April 18.

***BEDDINGTON AND WALLINGTON B.C.** (a) 24 houses. (b) Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Wallington. (c) April 30, 1st post. See page 24.

***BEDDINGTON AND WALLINGTON B.C.** (a) 18 flats. (b) Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Wallington. (c) April 30, 1st post. See page 24.

BEDFORDSHIRE E.C. (a) (1) Kitchen/dining hall and sanitary office block at Arlesley Siding C.P. School and (2) Kitchen/dining hall at Bedford Priory Street Schools. (b) County Architect, Shire Hall, Bedford. (d) April 4. (e) April 28.

BOURNEMOUTH B.C. (a) 24 flats, Leybourne Estate. (b) Borough Architect (Room 101), Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) April 8.

CATERHAM AND WARRINGHAM U.C. (a) 2 pairs of houses, 2 blocks of flats and a block of houses, site No. 43, Addison/Ninehams Road. (b) Council's Surveyor, Council Offices, Caterham. (c) 2gns. (e) April 15.

CROYDON B.C. (a) 16 flats in a 5-storey block, Central Hill, Essex Grove. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Katherine Street; immediately.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS U.C. (a) 44 houses, Greystone Estate and 6 houses, Anty Cross Estate. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) April 5.

DEARNE U.C. (a) Contract No. 20. 70 houses, Whin Wood site (in groups of 20, 50, or 70). (b) Council's Surveyor, Council Offices, Bolton-upon-Dearne. (c) 2gns. (e) April 16.

DOVER B.C. (a) 4 shops with 4 maisonettes above and 3 garages, Sheridan Road, Buckland Valley. (b) Borough Engineer, Brook House. (c) 2gns. (e) April 9.

EAST SUFFOLK C.C. (a) 3 pairs of houses, Capel St. Mary Smallholdings Estate. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Ipswich. (c) 2gns. (d) April 9. (e) May 7.

EIRE—DUBLIN CORPORATION. (a) 164 houses, Finglas East housing area, Section No. 2A. (b) City Treasurer, Exchange Buildings, Lord Edward Street. (c) 5gns. (e) April 16.

EIRE—DUBLIN (a) Boys' school, Synge Street, for Irish Christian Brothers. (b) Messrs. Morris and Kavanagh, 68, Harcourt Street. (c) £50. (e) April 18.

address it is the same as the locality given in the heading. (c) deposit, (d) last date for application, (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked ★ are given in the advertisement section.

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FARNHAM U.C. (a) 5 pairs of houses, Weydon Lane (East) site. (b) Messrs. Gilbert and Hobson, Lloyds Bank Chambers, 75, Castle Street. (c) £2. (e) April 12.

FAVERSHAM B.C. (a) (1) block of 6 2-storey flats, (2) block of 4 2-storey flats, (3) block of 6 2-storey flats (32 dwellings in all), North Preston site. (b) Borough Surveyor, Municipal Offices. (c) 2gns. (e) April 15.

HEANOR U.C. (a) 52 houses, Marlpool Farm Estate. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices. (c) 3gns. (e) April 10.

HINCKLEY U.C. (a) (1) 12 houses, Sketchley Hill Estate, (2) 16 houses, Red Hill Estate, and (3) 12 houses, Mill Lane Estate (to be completed within 12 months). (b) Council's Surveyor, 9, Station Road. (c) £2. (e) April 5.

LISKEARD R.C. (a) (1) Block of 3 houses, block of 2 houses and a block of 2 houses, (2) construction of 800 sq yds of tarmac roadway and 460 sq yds of pavement, 84 lin yds of water main and 84yds of sewer, etc., at Polruan. (b) Messrs. Higman and Ford, 2, The Parade. (c) 2gns. for (1) and 1gn. for (2). (e) April 10.

LONDON—WANDSWORTH B.C. (a) 24 flats in 6 blocks, Estreham Road, S.W.16. (b) Town Clerk, Municipal Buildings, S.W.18, with details of plant, technical and supervisory staff available and names of 2 technical and 2 financial referees. (d) April 2.

MARLOW U.C. (a) 20 houses, Little Marlow Road. (b) Messrs. Henry Cooper and Sons, 6, The Forbury, Reading. (c) 2gns. (e) April 16.

MERIDEN R.C. (a) 50 houses, Hockley Lane, Allesley. (b) Messrs. A. H. Gardner and Partners, 11, Eaton Road, Coventry. (c) 2gns. (e) April 4.

NEW FOREST R.C. (a) 5 bungalows, Site No. 7, Rumbidge Farm, Totton. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Lyndhurst. (c) 2gns. (e) April 7.

NORFOLK E.C. (a) 2 classrooms, cloak-room and lavatories at Aldborough Primary School, and a pair of houses and bungalows at North Lynn Junior School, King's Lynn. (b) Chief Education Officer, Education Offices, Stracey Road, Norwich. (c) £2 each contract. (d) Apr. 2.

NORWICH C.C. (a) 172 dwellings in groups from 12 to 50, also 1 shop and 1 flat, North Park Avenue Estate. (b) City Architect, City Hall. (c) £1. (e) April 15.

PLOUGHLEY R.C. (a) 3 pairs of houses, Yarnon. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Waverley House, Bicester. (c) £2. (e) Apr. 25.

PORTSMOUTH C.C. (a) 146 houses, Leigh Park. (b) City Architect, Municipal Offices, 1, Western Parade. (c) 3gns. (d) April 16.

RUISLIP-NORTHWOOD U.C. (a) 84 flats and 16 Eventide Homes, Eastcote. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Oaklands Gate, Northwood. (c) 2gns. (e) April 15.

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SCOTLAND—GLENROTHES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. (a) 93 houses, Auchmuty first housing development, near Markinch. (b) Secretary, Glenrothes Development Corporation, Glenrothes, near Markinch, Fife. (d) Mar. 31. Separate trades.

SCOTLAND—MIDLOTHIAN C.C. (a) 4 houses, Carrington. (b) County Architect, 32, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, 12. (c) Apr. 4. All or separate trades.

SHEPESHED U.C. (a) 26 houses (in pairs and blocks of 6), Glenmore Estate. (b) Messrs. McCarthy, Collings and Co., 187, Forest Road, Coalville. (c) 2gns.

UPPINGHAM R.C. (a) 34 houses and 4 blocks of flats, Leicester Road site. (b) Messrs. Pick, Everard, Keay and Gimson, 6, Millstone Lane, Leicester. (c) £3. (d) March 29.

WATFORD B.C. (a) 22 houses, Kyles Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 3gns. (d) April 15.

WEST RIDING STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE. (a) (Group 1) 1 house and office, Batings, Soyland; (Group 2) 3 houses, Shelley Lane, Kirkburton, 1 at Hawthorne Road, Slaithwaite, 1 at Far Bank Lane, Shelley; (Group 3) 2 houses, Sherwood Avenue, Scawsby, 8 at Windmill Balk Lane, Woodlands; (Group 4) 4 houses, Horse Close Estate, Skipton, 1 at Mytholmes Lane, Haworth, 1 house and office at Colne Road, Glusburn, 1 house and office at Greenside Lane, Cullingworth; (Group 5) 1 house at New Road, High Green, Chapeltown, 2 at Sheffield Road, Birdwell; (Group 6) 2 at Albert Road, Morley; (Group 7) 1 at Back Gate, Ingletton and (Group 8) 1 house and office at Hard Lane, Kiveton Park. (b) County Architect, "Bishopgarth," Westfield Road, Wakefield. (c) 2gns. (e) April 25, separate tenders for each site.

YORK C.C. (a) 7 blocks of 10 flats, Asham Lane and Moor Lane Estate. (b) City Architect, Guildhall. (c) £4. (e) April 19.

YORK C.C. (a) 2 pairs of houses at Carr Lane and 1 pair at St. Stephen's Road, for police. (b) City Architect, Guildhall. (c) £2. (e) April 5.

PLACED

Notes on contracts placed state locality and authority in bold type with (1) type of work, (2) site, (3) name of contractor and address, (4) amount of tender or estimate. † denotes that work may not start pending final acceptance, or obtaining of licence, or modification of tenders, etc.

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LONDON, E. (1) 51 flats. (2) Landsell Place, E.C.2. (3) Halse and Sons, Ltd., Chapel Hill, Woolwich, S.E.18. (4) £100,000.

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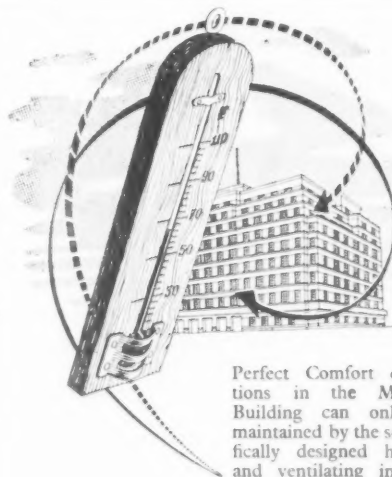


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BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of CHIEF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, within Grade VII (E685-E760).

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED.

Conditions of appointment and form of application may be obtained from Mr. H. D. Peake, M.Sc.(Eng.), Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Chatham, to whom completed application forms should be returned not later than Friday, 4th April, 1952. [6266]

BOROUGH OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above appointment at a salary in accordance with A.P.T. Grade Va (£660-£666 per annum) of the National Scale of Salaries.

Applicants should be Registered Architects or hold equivalent qualifications and preference will be given to those experienced in the design of housing schemes and in the maintenance and adaptation of Local Authority buildings.

The Council will be prepared to provide housing accommodation for the successful applicant, if married.

Conditions of the appointment and forms of application may be obtained from the undersigned to whom completed forms should be returned not later than Thursday, April 10th, 1952.

P. C. SMART, A.M.I.C.E.,
Borough Engineer.

Municipal Offices,
Stratford-upon-Avon [6271]

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of ASSISTANT CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER. Candidates must be Corporate Members of the Town Planning Institute and of the Institution of Municipal Engineers. They should be good administrators and have had considerable experience in the duties required by the application of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947. Experience with a large local authority will be an advantage. Salary £950-£1,100 in accordance with qualifications and experience.

The post is permanent, superannuable and subject to medical examination. Applications, endorsed "Deputy Chief Planning Officer," stating qualifications and experience together with the names and addresses of two persons to whom reference can be made, should reach the undersigned not later than 10th April, 1952. Canvassing disqualifies.

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BERKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

APPLICATIONS are invited for an ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, A.P.T. VI, £645-£710. Candidates should have had good architectural training and be experienced in planning, design and construction. Preference will be given to Associates of the Royal Institution of British Architects. The work in the first instance will be on important new schools; opportunities for obtaining a varied experience on other types of County Buildings will be given later.

Application forms and further particulars can be obtained from J. T. Castle, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.P.I., County Architect, Wilton House, Parkside Road, Reading, to whom they should be returned not later than Friday, 18th April, 1952.

E. R. DAVIES,
Clerk of the Council.

Shire Hall,
Reading,
March, 1952. [6288]

CONTRACTS

BOROUGH OF BEDDINGTON AND WALLINGTON

ERECTION OF 24 HOUSES, RICHMOND ROAD, BEDDINGTON

THE Corporation will shortly be inviting tenders for the above works which will be carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

The Corporation propose to obtain tenders by sending Bills of Quantities to a limited number of Contractors, and Contractors wishing to be considered are invited to apply to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor by not later than first post on Wednesday, 10th April, 1952.

A. B. BATEMAN,

Town Clerk

Town Hall,
Wallington,
27th March, 1952. [6281]

BOROUGH OF BEDDINGTON AND WALLINGTON

BEDDINGTON CORNER REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME

STAGE II ERECTION OF 18 FLATS

THE Corporation will shortly be inviting tenders for the above works which will be carried out under the supervision of Messrs. Pite, Son & Fairweather, Chartered Architects.

The Corporation propose to obtain tenders by sending Bills of Quantities to a limited number of Contractors, and Contractors wishing to be considered are invited to apply to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor by not later than first post on Wednesday, 10th April, 1952.

A. B. BATEMAN,

Town Clerk

Town Hall,
Wallington,
27th March, 1952. [6281]

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The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, etc. If the applicant is a man aged 18-64 or a woman aged 18-59 inclusive, unless he or she or the employer is exempted from the provisions of The Notification of Vacancies Order 1952.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL

ARCHITECTS required for new Housing Programme.

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ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT—contd.

PROMINENT London Contractors, designers of non-traditional house construction, have vacancy for Senior Assistant Architect. A post for a young office trained A.R.I.B.A. interested in constructional problems. Salary £450 per annum, or according to ability.—Write Box A.C.70895, Simon Clarke, 57-61, Mortimer St., W.1. [6278]

SITUATIONS VACANT

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MANAGER to take charge of branch office, Southern Rhodesia, salary and commission should give four-figure remuneration. A.R.I.B.A. or equivalent, single. Brief personal and professional details to Overseas Technical Service, S. Weldon, Crescent, Harrow, quoting reference OSS.47.2. [6290]

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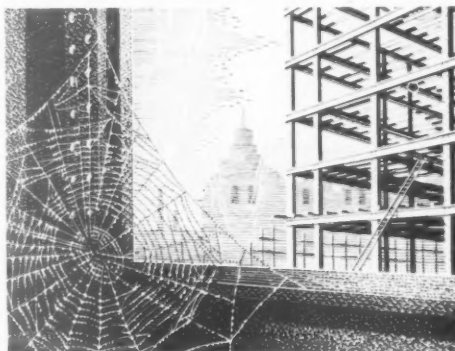
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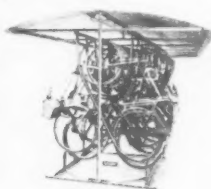
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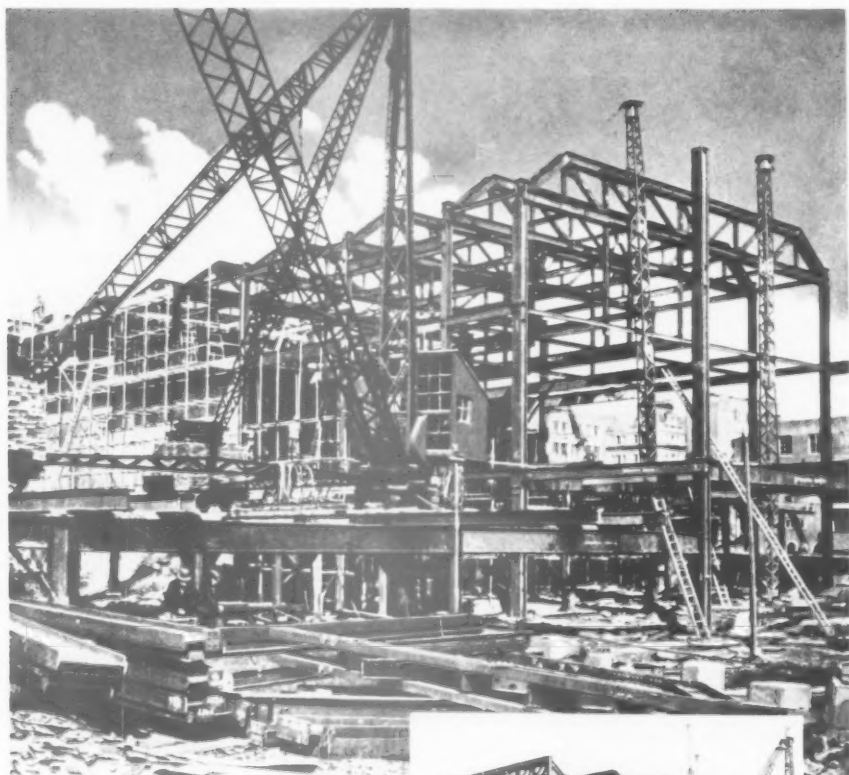
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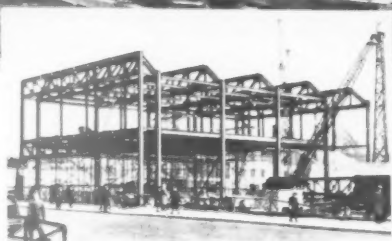
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